NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER-----FOR THE FARM, FIELD AND FIRESIDE.

VOLUME {LVII. OLD SERIES. XXXIII. NEW SERIES.} BOSTON, SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 30, 1878. {ESTABLISHED, 1822. RE-ISSUED, 1849.} NUMBER 48.

Bureau of Statistics
Treasury Dep
Washington

New England Farmer.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

R. P. EATON & CO.,

No. 34 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.

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RUSSELL P. EATON, ...GENERAL EDITOR.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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Editorial.

THE SOILING SYSTEM.

The following letter of inquiry has been received from Mr. Thomas J. Edge, Secretary of the Pennsylvania State Board of Agriculture. Mr. Edge suggested a reply by mail, but as he asks for minute details, and as our time is too much occupied for a great deal of private correspondence, especially upon topics which are of general interest to the readers of the FARMER, we have concluded to publish our answer for the benefit of those who may desire information on the same or similar points.

HARRISBURG, Penn., Nov. 6, 1878.

A. W. CHEEVER:

Dear Sir:—Will you be kind enough to furnish me with the result of your practical experience in soiling farm stock. Please state number and kind of stock kept; kind and amount of crops needed to keep up a constant succession of food; amount of grain, bran, etc., bought, and any items which you may deem of advantage to a beginner who wishes to avoid the mistakes of others. Do not fear to be too minute. Respectfully, THOS. J. EDGE,
Sec'y Penn. State Board of Ag.

PINE HEDGE FARM,
SHELDONVILLE, MASS., Nov. 9, 1878.

MR. THOS. J. EDGE:

My Dear Sir:—Your letter of inquiry concerning the soiling of cattle is received. I wish you could just call in and see me and look over the farm, while talking over the soiling question. In writing, I hardly know where to begin, or what to say. I don't think I take to figures very kindly; at any rate, I never make any very definite calculations when laying out my work, so far as the counting of animals, or measuring land for crops. I suppose the term "soiling" is generally understood to mean the feeding of green crops to cattle, but I use the term only as it relates to feeding in the stall, as against pasturing.

I do not aim to have just enough green fodder for my animals and no more, but feed green or dry material, as is most convenient. I feed in the stable because I thereby save fodder, and can keep more stock on a given number of acres. I have few acres to cultivate, and aim to make the most of the area used. My farm contains, at the present time, twenty-six acres under cultivation, and six in pasture. The twenty-six acres include all the land that is ploughed or mowed, except the family garden and grounds occupied by farm buildings. The pasture is an old mowing field that was turned out some twenty years ago, and has had nothing done for it since but to overfeed it every year, until the present summer, when I commenced improving it by dressing with chemical fertilizers. Until this summer, I have occasionally hired dry cows and young stock pastured away from home, but this year the stock has all been kept at home. I have bought no hay or other fodder, except grain, since 1876. Last year I kept an average of twenty-eight animals through the winter, and had about four tons of hay left over when I commenced feeding the new crops. Have twenty-six head now, including three horses, fifteen milch cows, a large bull, four one-year-old heifers (past.) and three summer calves. I have plenty of fodder to carry me through the winter without doubt. Every fall I sow a broad area to winter rye, begin to cut it in the spring just as the heads first show themselves, and continue to cut and feed green till it gets too hard, which is before the blossoms fall. The balance is then all made into hay for winter feeding.

By the time the rye is too old, I have orchard grass ready to mow, and the pasture affords some feed at that time. Orchard grass is followed by red clover, and frequently orchard grass and clover are grown together, the former being a trifle the earlier, but the two working quite well together. These two grasses and June grass, or Kentucky blue grass, which often grows with both, fill up the time between the feeding of winter rye and the main crop of English grasses which are chiefly redtop and timothy. Oats are sown as early in spring as the condition of the ground will permit, and the crop is ready to cut immediately after the English grasses. I have sown spring rye several years and obtain a cutting a week or more before the oats are in condition to cut, but as spring rye comes just when the pasture is at its best, I find little need of this crop, although it is a valuable one when soiling is practiced exclusively.

The next crop sown after oats is corn, then millet. These both need warm weather for profitable culture. Oats, corn, and millet are each sown at intervals of a week or ten days, to bring a succession of tender feed through the season. Spring wheat and barley have also been cultivated to a limited extent, enough to prove their value, when the seed can be obtained at reasonable rates. Winter wheat also makes an excellent soiling crop, coming in ust after winter rye. Corn and millet are sown to last till early frosts in autumn, when their place is taken by barley sown in mid-summer. Two years' experience with barley for cutting in September, October, and November shows that it is very valuable for late fall feeding, as it is not injured much by frosts. Some of my neighbors have been cutting it this season, even after the ground was slightly frozen. Cabbages and turnips are used for late feeding by producers of milk, but as my milk is designed for making an extra choice article of butter, I have not felt quite safe in feeding such rank flavored food, but prefer barley instead. I also feed freely of corn fodder during the late fall months, by cutting it when in bloom and preserving in stooks in the open field, or by standing it up in long, wide piles by the side of fences.

The past summer I have grown a small plot of Egyptian millet, a new forage plant recently introduced into this country, but as I had a curiosity to see what it would do in the way of growth, it was not cut as early as it should have been to secure the best quality of feed. It is a very rapidly growing plant, resembles corn more than millet, and, if cut early enough, I think will be liked by animals. After another trial I can speak of it with more confidence. The golden millet was grown last season, and I am very much pleased with it, but the seed must be furnished at a cheaper rate than it brought the past summer, or it will not come into general use at present.

You will see that all these crops which I have named can be cut and be made into hay for winter fodder, if there should be a surplus above the immediate needs of the stock kept. My own practice is to grow enough of everything for feeding green during its season, and in order to do this with certainty, in unfavorable seasons, it is necessary to grow more than will be needed, provided the season is favorable. Or, perhaps, it would be nearer the facts in the case to say that I aim to make the farm produce all it will, and then either adapt the number of animals to the crops grown, or purchase from outside in case more animals are needed than the farm will keep. It would be of little use for me to try to figure out the exact number of square rods required for keeping an animal on green crops during the summer. The difference in the natural fertility of different soils, the varying methods of treating soils and crops by different farmers, and the uncertainty of the seasons, would all render such estimates very unreliable as a guide to practice.

There are records of very great production of soiling crops, which I might refer you to, particularly those given by E. W. Stewart, of New York, in a lecture before the Vermont Dairymen's Association, some two years ago, but such crops must have been grown on land much better than the majority of mine. The land of "Pine Hedge Farm" is very uneven in quality, some of it being very productive under high cultivation, while other portions are dry and gravelly, and subject to serious injury from droughts. One tract of six acres produced a very light crop of grass the past season, owing, in part, to the dry weather which prevailed during the entire month of May. On this farm the best production yet reached has been the keeping of one animal to the acre the year through, without the purchase of any kind of food except grain, but I am sure that a maximum production has not yet been reached, even for land of such quality, while, if it were equal to that I sometimes find on other farms, I should expect a yield considerably above its possibilities, except under a system of artificial irrigation, which would be entirely impracticable here.

In practicing soiling one should provide a liberal amount of dry, early cut and well cured fodder for feeding during stormy weather, and for mixing with green food when the condition of the animals seems to require it. Dry hay is just as good food for a cow in July as in January. In stormy weather, and, indeed, at any time, it is a great deal better than green fodder covered with water; besides it is anything but an agreeable job to go out during a heavy rain storm and collect fodder for a barn full of hungry cattle. One who adopts soiling and carries out the system judiciously, will soon find that he can feed dry hay or other dry fodder, in summer, quite as economically as in winter. His farm will so improve in productive capacity that he will not feel the expense of every pound of hay fed, as some farmers appear to who depend wholly upon pasture feed in summer, and who are compelled to let their animals gnaw down their mowing fields after haying, until there is scarcely enough grass left to ensure its living through the winter

It will be slow work to increase the productiveness of a farm through the soiling system, unless more than one crop is raised on the same ground in a season. My own practice is to keep the whole farm, or as much of it as is practicable, in growing crops from early spring till the ground closes up in the fall. The grass is chiefly raised on land that will grow two or three crops in a season, by high manuring. The cultivated land is also made to produce two crops or more, according to circumstances. Corn, on cultivated land, is either preceded or followed by winter rye, and often both, as there is ample time in this latitude for planting corn after cutting rye for fodder, and there is always time to sow rye after harvesting the corn.

The past summer I cut, in an apple orchard, a field of winter rye in the month of May. The season being early, I commenced cutting on the first day of the month, the heads being just in sight; it lasted some ten days when the field was ploughed, manured, and sowed to oats. These were in full bloom early in July, and after removal were followed by barley, which was considerably past the bloom early in September, and when cut on the 16th, the seed was ripe enough to sprout. I am satisfied that the seasons here in New England are always long enough for getting a crop of winter rye, a crop of oats, and then a crop of barley on the same land, each crop being fully grown and suitable for feeding green or drying for hay, and the latter early enough to be cut in season for the land to be again sowed with winter rye.

The soiling system is probably best adapted to rather light soils, and such as are easily ploughed and worked, or rather the advantages will be more apparent upon such soils than upon those which will naturally produce a continuous growth of grass from April to November. Grass requires a greater rainfall to ensure a crop than do the grains, such as rye, oats, barley, millet, and Indian corn. Corn and millet are especially adapted to comparatively dry land, and thrive wonderfully during weather in which the growth of ordinary grass almost ceases.

Another great advantage I find in soiling, over pasturing, is the saving in the expense of fencing a farm. None of my mowing or cultivated fields are pastured at all, so I have been enabled to dispense with all inside fences, and, latterly, have been giving up the use of roadside fences also. This is a very great convenience, as there are no gates to be opened or shut, and no bars to be let down or put up when driving to any part of the farm, except the pasture, nor do neighbors' cattle annoy half as badly as before the street fences were discontinued, for every neighbor now knows that, unless he keeps his animals within their own enclosures, they will be very sure to cause damage which neither himself nor the injured party will be willing to be responsible for.

In summing up the advantages of soiling, I can claim a saving of land, fences, and fodder, as there is less waste where fodder is cut and carried to animals than when they are allowed to trample and defile it by their droppings. It insures a full supply of food in seasons when droughts would ruin a pasture and starve the animals. It also, for the same reasons, ensures a constant production and income from the stock kept, thus bringing profits where otherwise there must be loss. Among the disadvantages of soiling may be mentioned the extra cost of cutting and carting food for stock, and the danger of giving too little exercise to the animals for maintaining them in perfect health. To reduce the cost of cutting and carting the crops, they should be grown as near to the farm buildings as practicable, and be cut with a mowing machine, whenever the amount required is large enough to warrant its use. To keep cattle in good health, a small pasture may be given up as an exercising ground, where they may be turned in as many hours each day as seems desirable. The system is undoubtedly best suited to mature cows which really require very little exercise while in milk.

If advising a beginner, I should recommend commencing in a small way at first, raising corn fodder and other crops to carry the herd through the dry months, always curing any surplus fodder for winter use. When one becomes enough familiar with the system so that he can estimate safely for full supplies for the whole season, he could divide his herd, giving the pasture to the young and dry stock, while the cows in milk are kept wholly at the barn. Keeping cattle up the entire year requires extra provision for absorbing the liquid excrements, and more labor will be needed for keeping the animals clean and tidy looking. I find it necessary to use plenty of bedding of some kind in the stables—sand, sawdust, straw, or whatever else comes most handy, will be the best in each case. I use sand chiefly, because it is the most available in my locality. I am beginning to question whether I cannot grow more grain, and thus secure straw for bedding, but to do this will require still higher farming; that is, heavier crops must be grown on the land now under cultivation, or more of them must be grown in a year. I know there is ample time for getting a heavy fodder crop after a crop of ripe grain, either of rye, oats, wheat or barley. There are thousands of acres lying idle, or growing up to weeds every summer, where a single grain crop is all that is produced in the whole year, and that, too, when we all know that it takes less than ninety days to mature that crop.

What the limits are to production under the soiling system, none of us have yet been able to determine. I know that my own land is, as yet, far from its maximum state of productiveness. I hear of farms in your own State, where nearly one animal to the acre is kept, and all the grain raised on the farm, but I think the land must be better than mine is at present. I buy grain when I think I can buy it cheaper than to raise it, and I feed grain when I think it is a cheaper food than hay. The coarser and poorer the fodder, the more grain is needed to make it equivalent to good English hay.

I have endeavored to treat this subject in such a manner that one might feel safe in commencing to practice the soiling system, though I am aware that many questions may come up, especially concerning the best methods for growing the several crops alluded to above. Some of these can only be answered satisfactorily from each one's experience after a trial of the system. So much depends upon the climate, the character of the soil, the market prices of produce, &c., that no rules applicable to all can be given. I might state, in closing, that I have found that, for rye, barley, and oats, four bushels of seed is not too much for an acre when grown exclusively for fodder, and without grass seed. Millet should be sown at the rate of a bushel per acre, and corn fodder, (the large, sweet varieties,) need only about a bushel to give the sweetest fodder. If sown too thick, it grows pale, weak and watery. If planted very early in spring, while the weather is cool, it may, however, be put in thicker, but it should be cut, in this case, before it begins to tassel out. I have sown eight or ten bushels to the acre, in early spring, and cut it in June, then followed with another crop of some kind.

If the above description of my methods should suggest any questions which, if answered, would make the subject clearer to a beginner, I shall be glad to reply to them at any time. I am, Sir, yours truly,

A. W. CHEEVER.

CONDENSED MILK.

Several parties have written to the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, during the past few months, asking for information concerning the manufacture of condensed milk. The process of condensing milk was invented and patented many years ago by Mr. Gail Borden, but the patent has now expired, and the right to manufacture is free to all. The business of condensing milk in this country has never reached a great magnitude, partly because of the comparatively large amount of capital required for successfully carrying on the business, and partly on account of the limited demand for the manufactured goods. We have been able to learn of less than a dozen factories in the United States, although there may be more.

Among the largest concerns are the New York Milk Condensing Company, of New York city, that of W. K. Lewis & Co., West Brookfield, Mass., that of Wm. Munsen & Son, Baltimore, Md., and another at Elgin, Ill. Though an American invention, the process is now carried on quite extensively in Switzerland and other European countries where cheap labor and cheap material make it possible for foreign manufacturers to compete successfully in our own markets. The duty imposed upon the sugar used in the manufacture of condensed milk, and on the tin plate of which the cans are made, is so much higher than the duty upon imported milk that at present there seems little encouragment offered to manufacturers here. The business has, undoubtedly, been profitable in years past, but the foreign milk is offered so cheaply now that the demand for our own manufacture has seriously fallen off.

The process of manufacture is quite simple, but the greatest care is required in keeping the supply of fresh milk as it comes in from the farms, pure and sound. Every lot is carefully inspected and any sample that is found to be imperfect is rejected before it has a chance of spoiling all the rest. After being accepted it is strained two or three times to remove all possible impurities. It is then heated in large vats having copper coils of steam pipe in the bottom, after which, one and a quarter pounds of the best granulated sugar is added for each four quarts of fresh milk. It is then drawn into a vacuum pan capable of holding several thousand gallons, where it is reduced to one-fourth its normal bulk. It is then allowed to cool down to a temperature of 70°, when it is ready to draw off into pound cans, which are sealed by soldering. Good, sound milk, put up in this way, will keep for a long time, and is used very extensively on shipboard both by travellers and seamen. It is also used largely by city residents who are suspicious of ordinary city milk, especially for feeding to infants and young children. There is, also, considerable sale for plain condensed milk, but unless sugar is used in its manufactnre, it will not keep for any great length of time.

The apparatus required in a factory capable of converting 5000 gallons of crude milk per day, has cost some ten thousand dollars, while the buildings would require an additional outlay of about one-fourth that amount. Condensed milk is sold in our cities at retail for twenty-five cents per pint can, each can holding one pound, and representing two quarts of fresh milk. The manufacturer's price is twenty-five to thirty-three per cent. less, in large quantities. It will be seen that the business cannot be carried on at a profit, except in localities where abundant supplies of pure fresh milk can be furnished daily through the year.

It would seem that the milk condensing business, in conjunction with the manufacture of beet sugar, might yet become a profitable business in this country. Sugar is needed for preserving the milk, cows are needed for consuming the refuse pulp from the beets, and manure is needed for growing the beets. Sugar making could be carried on for two or three months in the fall and early winter, without greatly interfering with the regular work of the establishment. We understand that the West Brookfield factory was, at one time, engaged by parties interested in beet sugar making, but so little encouragement was received from the farmers in the vicinity that the project was abandoned.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

VERMONT STATE.—The annual meeting of the Vermont State Agricultural Society was held at Woodstock, Vt., Nov. 20. The report of the Finance Committee shows the receipts of the last fair $4282.39; expenses, $4,453.66; deficit, including premiums and medals due, $307.27; total assets of the society, including cash in the Treasurer's hands, stocks, bonds, etc., $16,284.56, an increase for the year of $636.21. Substantially the old board of directors was re-elected and the following officers: President, Geo. A. Merrill, of Rutland; Vice Presidents, Henry Chase, of Lyndon, C. Horace Hubbard, of Springfield, Silas G. Holyoke, of St. Albans, H. Henry Baxter, of Rutland; Treasurer, Noah B. Safford, of White River Junction; Secretary, Henry Clark, of Rutland. James A. Shedd, Crosby Miller, R. S. Benjamin and the President and Secretary were appointed a committee to locate the next fair. It is understood that Montpelier is desirous of securing it.

HOOSAC VALLEY.—At the annual meeting of this society at North Adams last week, O. A. Archer, of Blackinton, was chosen president. Treasurer Walden's report showed receipts for the past year of $3511; expenditures, $3391; assets, $13,346; indebtedness, $5750. There is $180 in the treasury, though last year the society owed the treasurer $48. During the year they have built a railing around the track at an expense of $176, and insured their property for five years at an expense of $60.

BRISTOL COUNTY.—The Bristol County Agricultural Society, on the 16th inst., elected officers as follows: President, Theodore Dean, Taunton; Vice Presidents, Jonathan Slade, Somerset, F. S. Stevens, Swanzey; Treasurer, P. Williams, Taunton; Secretary, F. Mitchell, Taunton. The finance report of 1877 gives the receipts at the fair as $7694; premiums paid, $4036; interest paid, $422; other expenses, not including reduction of debt, $3287; net debt January, 1878, above cash assets, $12,232. The receipts of the fair of 1878 were $7001.

MISCELLANEOUS.—A dispatch from Lawrence says the decision of the Trustees of the Essex Agricultural Society to hold the next fair at Lynn is regarded with disfavor by the members there, and there is considerable talk of forming an Essex North Agricultural Society, comprising Lawrence, the Andovers, Methuen, Haverhill and intervening towns. The receipts of the last fair held at Lawrence were $1689.25; expenditures, $1400.

The annual meeting of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Association of Attleboro', was held on the 4th inst. Chas. E. Haywood was elected President, J. Arness, Secretary, and Elisha G. May, Treasurer. The debt is $16.500, and cash on hand $1300. It was voted to issue $16,000 of five-year six per cent. bonds. The receipts of the last fair were $2050; premiums paid, $800.

The West Winthrop, Me., Farmers' Club has chosen the following officers for the ensuing year: President, A. C. Hodgkins; Vice President, J. Henry Moore; Secretary, G. H. Folsom; reporter and Treasurer, B. C. Torsey; librarian, George Howard.

EXTRACTS AND REPLIES.

APPLE POMACE—SAUSAGES.

As the question of pomace has been called up, I will say what little I know about it. I know more about feeding pomace than writing for an agricultural paper, and would say, in my way, that I have fed pomace for twenty years or more to my milk cows with good success. I had as soon have a feed of pomace as a feed of English hay. It increases the flow and the quality of the milk and butter. Living near a cider mill where it is made extensively, I commence as soon as the season of cider making begins, and feed as long as I can get it. Begin with a small quantity, and increase the feed. I consider one-half bushel a full feed. I prefer it to apples, and my neighbors are of the same opinion. If you think this worthy of a place in the paper,

Can you give us a good receipt for making sausages? Yours truly, S. M. B.

Hillsboro' Bridge, N. H., Nov. 15, 1878.

REMARKS.—Thanks for your seasonable remarks upon feeding pomace, in which subject we find considerable interest is felt at this time. In connection with your remarks, and what we have before published on this subject, we copy the following statement as to the value of pomace as food for cattle and hogs, fed either cooked or raw, made by Prof. G. C. Caldwell of Cornell University, in the *N. Y. Tribune*:—

The proportion of valuable food-constituents in apple pomace and some other kinds of fodder is given in the following table:

	Albuminoids.	Carbohydrates & Fat.
Apple Pomace	1.0 per cent.	17.4 per cent.
Potatoes	2.0 per cent.	21.0 per cent.
Sugar Beet	1.0 per cent.	14.5 per cent.
Mangolds	1.0 per cent.	10.0 per cent.

Upon these three constituents almost the entire value of fodder depends; therefore, so far as we can draw inferences safely from chemical composition alone the pomace would be about half as valuable as potatoes for fodder, and almost if not quite as good as roots. I do not think, however, that so high a value would be allowed for the pomace by those who have had experience with it and with roots; but at any rate it would appear to be well worth saving for fodder. But little, if anything, would be gained, I think, by cooking it.

With regard to sausage making. We have seen numerous receipts, generally very much alike, varied mostly by the taste of the manufacturer as to the kind and quantity of flavoring. The following receipt comes from Missouri, where, as our readers know, pork enters largely into the diet of the people, and where, consequently, the art of preparing it *ought* to be well mastered:—

A lady in Missouri says, "The fat portion of the pig should be mixed with the lean at the rate of one pound to four, if desired to be very rich; if not, use less of the fat. Pass the lean meat twice through the sausage mill; chop the fat very fine, as grinding reduces it to a paste and it is lost in frying. Those who like it smoked can stuff it, but an excellent way to preserve it until spring, say June, is to fry it in balls the size of an egg. When done, lay it in jars, covering with melted lard, and tying down with strong paper." This lady says a larger quantity of sage is needed than an unpracticed hand would suppose, but instead of giving the amount of sage, salt, red and black pepper she uses, she advises each one to fry and try until it suits those who are to eat it. The tenderloin makes better sausages than the lean of other parts.

The main art and secret is to proportion the seasoning so that no one article will predominate. But as to the amount of seasoning, these authorities differ somewhat. A correspondent of the FARMER,—M. A. R., of Fitzwilliam, N. H.,—gave, a few years ago, the following rule:—To ten pounds of meat put one gill of salt, one gill of sage, and one-half gill of pepper, or if preferred, half the quantity of sage and a half gill of summer savory. L. L. Pierce, East Jaffrey, N. H., gave as a rule for each pound of meat, three teaspoonfuls of fine sage, one and a half of salt, and one of pepper, (three-fourths black, one-fourth cayenne.) Two writers very nearly agree in the rule that thirty pounds of meat should have nine ounces of salt and four ounces of pepper, while a third recommends a much larger quantity. Our own rule, and one that has given satisfaction, is to 100 lbs. meat add 1 quart fine salt, 1 heaping quart pulverized sage, ¼ pint black pepper.

Sausage meat may be preserved by putting it in new cotton cloth bags a foot or so long and two or three inches in diameter, which after filling are dipped in and coated with melted lard. When used the bag may be sliced off with the meat.

FEEDING GRAIN TO SAVE HAY.

Suppose your cattle had been fed little or no grain but had been kept mostly on good, upland hay, early cut and well cured, and you wished to extend your hay mow by feeding wheat shorts or bran at noon instead of hay, how much would you feed at a time instead of hay? Never having had any experience in feeding it, and wishing to make my hay go as far as I can, I apply for information where I hope I can obtain it. W. H. S.

REMARKS.—In the first place, we would give up the mid-day feeding entirely during the winter season. The days are short, and unless you do your chores by lamp light, the morning and evening feedings are now pretty near together, so that the noon meal will not be missed after a very few days. We have fed our cows but twice a day for the past dozen or more years, and would, on no account, go back to the old system of noon feeding, especially in winter. Cows spend more time in re-masticating their food, than they do in eating it at first, and there is no danger from hunger if eight hours intervene between the two feedings. By feeding too often or too much, good food is wasted. We do not claim that the whole of the noon feeding is saved by withholding it, but believe that a portion of it is. If you will feed three quarts of good bran, morning and evening, to your cows, in addition to the hay now given, you will, probably, lose nothing by omitting the noon feeding. If you can add a quart of meal at each feeding, you will find an increase of milk, and an improved condition, with a considerable saving in the hay. It is not well to feed one kind of food only to any animal. Wheat bran is really needed by most milch cows, to supply the bone material that is wasted to the farm in the milk sold. In one thousand pounds of timothy hay there are but seven pounds o phosphoric acid, while in one thousand pounds of wheat bran there are twenty-seven pounds.

LAYING DOWN LAND WITH WHEAT.

Having a piece of land to lay down, and desiring to lay it down with wheat, which shall I sow, the winter or summer varieties to get the best flour for bread? It is a low, mellow, rich soil, and is likely to be somewhat wet on the lower portions in the spring. Is the winter wheat as good for bread as the summer, raised in this part of the country? Will you please answer this through the columns of the FARMER; also, how much wheat to sow to the acre? W. F. C.

Ipswich, Mass., 1878.

REMARKS.—White winter wheat has usually been considered the most valuable for making flour, but latterly flour is made from spring wheat which is claimed to be fully equal to the best winter. It is made by a patented process, and would not affect the value of wheats grown in Massachusetts until the amount raised is far greater than at present. The "Lost Nation" spring wheat has given good satisfaction in the New England States, especially in the northern portions. It is one of the best grains to seed down with, in farm practice. We would advise trying both spring and winter varieties, as one might do much better on your land than would the other.

APPLES FOR NAME—BEANS, ETC.

I have been a reader of the NEW ENGLAND FARMER since 1850, it having been taken by my father or myself most of the time since that date. I send you by to-day's mail a box containing an apple and some beans. The apple is a sweet one, ripening all the way from October 1st to February 1st and we think them firstrate. If you know the name of it, please inform me. The beans were first brought here by our store-keeper, who found one in a chest of tea. We think them good, and would like to know the name. Plant them on your grounds another spring, and try them. Can you tell me where I can get a gauging rod or rule for measuring the wine capacity of barrels? I manufacture large quantities of cider, and have a good deal to measure. C.

Enfield Centre, N. H., Nov. 19, 1878.

REMARKS.—The apple, as near as we can ascertain, not being personally familiar with it, is the English Golden Russet. It is a handsome fruit, but we are hardly convinced that we have got the right name for it yet, as its flavor does not agree with what the books give the English Russet. The beans, we should think, are the yellow cranberry pole beans, which they resemble more than any other in our knowledge. The other information we have sent you by mail.

TO KILL LICE ON CALVES.

What will kill lice on calves without injuring the animals? Please reply through the NEW ENGLAND FARMER. N. F. R.

Concord, N. H., Nov. 18, 1878.

REMARKS.—Powdered sulphur may be sprinkled upon the backs of calves or other domestic animals with perfect safety, and it will kill all the lice it touches. Of course several applications will be necessary, as the sulphur will not destroy the eggs. A mixture of lard and kerosene oil, one part kerosene to three parts lard, is a safe application to apply to the under portions of the body where the sulphur would not remain, but it should be used very sparingly and with good judgment. Too much applied in cold weather will tend to chill an animal, and too much kerosene will tan the hide and take off the hair. Sulphur may be used quite freely.

AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

—At West Bridgewater the Farmers' Club has declared against horse racing at fairs by a decided majority.

—The wheat crop of the northwest as it is being threshed, is turning out better than was reported, both in quality and quantity.

—Holbrook's cider mill at Sherborn has made this season 19,000 barrels of cider out of 150,000 bushels of apples. The apples cost ten cents a bushel on the cars at country stations.

—North Carolina has for some years grown olive trees, where it is used in place of the more expensive olive oil. It has of late begun shipping peanut oil.

—Alfred Johnston of Salisbury, N. C., has lately dug the largest crop of sweet potatoes ever raised in that section in one season, gathering nearly 900 bushels. Of this number, 100 selected potatoes weighed over 600 pounds.

—The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is prepared to test beets as to their sugar value; send soon, to avoid freezing, six to ten specimens representing an average of the crop, to Director S. W. Johnson, New Haven.

—Mr. P. W. Dill, of Auburn, Me., reports eight hundred bushels of corn as husked from six acres. His root crop is nearly one thousand bushels, mostly beets, which he considers good feed for either hogs or cows. He also raised eighty tons of hay, and all these crops from a farm of only eighty acres.

—Vermont is relatively more of an agricultural State than any of her New England sisters, fifty per cent. of her people following that calling to a little less than 40 per cent. in Maine, 38 per cent. in New Hampshire, less than 30 per cent. in Massachusetts, 22 per cent. in Connecticut, and about 13 per cent. in Rhode Island.

—Bees often make long journeys in search of food. A bee owner in the West, thinking that they perhaps visited the clover field of a friend forty miles away, sprinkled their backs with flour one morning as they left their hives, having previously requested the friend to watch for them. A telegram came from the latter during the day saying, "Plenty of your white jacket bees here."

—Up to Nov. 1 there were 3,000,000 feet more of lumber surveyed at Bangor than in 1877 to that date and 5,000,000 feet more than in 1876. As on the 1st of August the amount surveyed was 7,000,000 feet less than last year, it will be seen that for the three months since there have been 10,000,000 feet more surveyed than in the corresponding time last year.

—The Springfield *Union* says: "The shipping of apples to Europe has not yet advanced the price. On the contrary, apples are cheaper to-day than they were two weeks ago, good greenings selling by the quantity for about seventy-five cents a barrel. A dealer in this city who was refused a lot of about one hundred and fifty barrels at ninety cents a short time ago has just bought the same lot for sixty-five cents exclusive of barrels. Many growers are holding on for better prices."

—Although the cotton crop in the Southwestern States is estimated to be one of the largest ever known, much of it will go to waste because there are not hands enough to gather it. The present epidemic has seen the yellow fever spread among the colored people for the first time to any extent, and it has caused such a panic among them that they hug the towns, and will not be tempted into the cotton fields by wages at which they could earn five dollars a day.

—The Amherst experiment of raising the early amber cane for syrup shows an average product of 160 gallons per acre, though some pieces have yielded as high as 256 gallons per acre. The percentage of grape sugar was found to be less when fresh cut and ground than after lying for awhile before being ground; and it is hoped that improved culture may increase the percentage of cane sugar. The cost of manufacturing the syrup this season has been 25 cents a gallon, but, with better facilities for making, the cost can be reduced one-half. The seed of the cane is said to be equal to oats for stock, and the young cane is claimed by some to be better than sowed corn for green fodder for cattle.

POLLED CATTLE.

Those who know the preference of the editor of the FARMER for polled cattle in his dairy herd, will see by the following item that the animals command good prices, where they are best known:—

Six hundred polled breeders were present at the recent auction in the North of Scotland of Mr. Comber's celebrated Tillyfour herd of Polled cattle. The leading feature of the sale was the dispersion of the females of the famous Pride family, consisting of five cows, one two-year-old heifer, four yearling heifers, and two heifer calves, and for these twelve the average obtained was no less than £63 14s. each. Taking all the families together, 16 cows brought an average of £54 17s.; three two-year-old heifers, £37 2s.; ten yearling heifers, £40 10s.; six heifer calves, £33 15s.; three bulls, £50 8s.; and six bull calves, £27 2s. The total receipts for forty four animals was £917, or an average of £43 11s. each. The group which carried the two $500 prizes at the Paris Exhibition was retained.

A GOOD CALF.—A correspondent writes us that R. Bosworth, Springfield, Vt., has a grade Devon and Durham steer calf, seven months old, which girts 4 feet, 11 inches, and weighs between 700 and 800 lbs. It is clear Devon in color, not a white hair to be seen, and so fine a calf is rarely to be found. Mr. B. has refused an offer of $80 for him.

POULTRY SHOWS.—The arrangements for the second exhibition of the Berkshire County Poultry Association, to be held in Armory hall, Pittsfield, December 17–20, are being rapidly made, and the prospect is for even a larger and better show than last year. During the year there has been a growing interest in poultry, and several new competitors, with a large display of fowls, will enter the lists. The society offer $1600 in cash premiums, and entries close December 13. The Westfield Poultry Association are also beginning to make preparations for their show, which is to come off early in January, and last four days.

WORCESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The Worcester county horticultural society have elected William P. Merrifield president, and will hold weekly exhibitions at Worcester throughout the year, and dispense with the annual fall show.

Correspondence.

From our Special Correspondent.

AGRICULTURE IN FRANCE.

PARIS, October 10, 1878.

The favorite race of Anglo-Normand horses are not so much bred, as reared and trained in the vast and rich plains of Caen. It would be an error to conclude that the whole of the province of Normandy is dedicated to this industry. The rearers of Caen purchase the colts when eighteen or twenty-four months old, wherever they can find them possessing certain forms approaching what is known especially as the Asiatic or English type—forehead broad and straight. The place of birth, or the maternal origin, is of secondary importance. The colts, all males, are reared with the view of becoming stallions, and those not accepted by the governmental breeding studs, are castrated and sold as saddle, carriage or draught horses. In the other parts of Normandy, as in France generally, and perhaps in the greater number of countries, the colt is allowed, in the fine seasons, to feed in natural meadows, and roam to a certain extent free. Not so in the region of Caen; here, the land is very rich and highly cultivated, and the colts, to the number of one hundred in a line, are tethered, while grazing; a rope with a series of knots is attached to a peg in the soil, and the animals can thus graze a fixed band of artificial meadow; as the band is fed down, a fresh knot is let out, or the peg changed. The colts commence this treatment in spring, as the pasture is advanced, and continue it while the grass lasts, the system of culture being adapted to the arrangement. In winter, they pass into the stables and are fed on dry forage. Since some years, an improvement has taken place in the mode of feeding the young animals, that of giving them oats daily at the rate of four quarts a day, consumed in a nose bag. This gives them fire, go, and staying power for the trotting tests they will have to submit before the government purchasers. This test necessitates the training of the colts to trotting, and hence each breeder has a course, about one and one-fourth miles long, where the animals are daily exercised, the riders being the stable boy or the owner's son. By this plan of rearing, the horses acquire solidity of limb and muscle, if they do not gain in general corporeal elegance. There is a difference as high as two-thirds between the price obtained for an entire colt and one when cut.

No cure, it is believed, exists for glanders; on the contrary, it is the systematic custom, where glanders appear in a stable, to destroy all the animals viewed as infectious, and is consequently treated as a pest, viz.: the affected animal is killed, and those suspected put in quarantine, for the early stage of the malady is the most dangerous. The known cases of spontaneous glanders are very rare. The disease was once very prevalent in the French cavalry, and in Bavaria, the colonel of a regiment and the veterinary surgeon are held personally responsible if glanders spread, as they are empowered to sacrifice the horses.

There are rumors that all is not quite right with regard to the quality of meat allowed to be sold in Paris; the inspectors are not unfaithful, but incompetent. A good deal of measly pork is presumed to pass inspection, which is strange, as the disease is easily recognized on the dead animal. The butchers deceive the purchaser by successively slicing away the vesicles, but the malady can be readily detected, if a lean portion of the animal, the shoulder, for example, be cut, when the vesicles will be visible. In France, pork forms the sole meat diet of one-half the population, and many persons knowingly eat the diseased flesh, asserting that, if well cooked, which it should be in every instance, the worms and their germs will be destroyed, and that onions and a good bottle of wine will do the rest.

The average price of butchers' meat in Paris is sixteen sous per pound, and despite all the unused supplies in La Plata and Australia, that an official asserted could be transported from Sydney to Marseilles in three weeks, sister Annes see nothing coming. The Tellier process seems to have broken down, since his beef packet, the *Frigorifique*, is moored in the Seine, and exhibition visitors invited to pay half a franc to witness what she failed to do—supply citizens with plain joints fresh from La Plata. French railway engineers, and farmers corroborate them, assert that navvies execute one-third more work when fed on a meat instead of a vegetable soup diet, and the vital statistics of the manufacturing centres of Lille and Rouen attest that, in proportion to the consumption of meat, the health of the population increases, and the number of births also.

The Chamber of Commerce of Marseilles has ordered that the manufacturers of oil in that city stamp their trade mark on the cakes issuing from their factories; the farmers will thus have a guarantee much needed. M. Goffart, the originator of the plan of conserving green forage, especially maize, in trenches, has invited foreign agriculturists to visit his farm, become his guests for the day, and witness the complete working of the system; he places a special train, at his own expense, at the service of those who wish to accept his invitation. Following in the wake of this idea, M. Faucon will do the same at the close of October, to show the flooding process of his vineyard for the destruction of the phylloxera, the luxuriancy of his vines, and the next to disappearance of those of his neighbors, who, having eyes, decline to use them.

The preservation of green maize has taken such an extension in Belgium that the farmers have more forage than their stock can consume. For the benefit of those farmers who have not adapted this revolution in agriculture, they have no occasion to hesitate. The system presents no difficulties. Cut the maize when it has just ceased to flower and commences to form the grain. When sown broadcast, the yield is less heavy but more tender, and can be trenched without preliminary chopping, though this process saves a great deal of trouble at feeding time; when cultivated in drills, the yield is superior,

New England Farmer.

BOSTON:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1878.

Advance Payments.

A large proportion of our subscribers commence their year's subscription between this time and March. If they will be prompt in forwarding their advance payments, they will confer a favor upon the publishers which will be duly appreciated. During the hard times, too, many of our readers have allowed their subscriptions to fall behind, till the amount due us has become too heavy a load to carry, in addition to other liabilities. All such we desire to remit, and at the same time, that the favors may not be all on one side, to enclose the advance payment for another year. Agents who have large territory to canvass find it difficult or impossible to call on all subscribers at the right time to obtain their subscriptions, therefore we specially request subscribers to forward their money, (by postal order, registered letter, or draft,) without waiting to be called upon.

Our subscribers can materially aid us by inducing their neighbors to join with them in sending for the FARMER, and the offer in our clubbing terms will enable them to secure any or all the leading magazines for their families with comparatively little trouble, while the addition of one or more new readers in each neighborhood would materially enlarge our list, and enable us to make the paper still more valuable than in the past.

Address all orders and remittances to

R. P. EATON & CO.,

34 Merchants Row, Boston.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements, 1st insertion,	. . .	15	cents per line.
Each subsequent insertion,	. .	12	" " "
Business Notices, each insertion,	. .	20	" " "
Double Column,	"	" . . .	40	" " "
Reading Matter Notices,	. . . . .	50	" " "

Advertisements must be sent in as early in the week as Tuesday, to secure insertion.

Advertisers are charged for the space occupied in solid nonpareil measure.

Transient advertising must be prepaid.

Extra display, including double column advertisements, and appropriate cuts, allowed at reasonable rates.

No advertisement inserted for less than one dollar, and no gift enterprise, lottery swindle, or any other humbug taken at any price.

Special terms for Probate and Farm Advertising.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Foreign news reports the opening of the war between Great Britain and Afghanistan. The Ameer refused to give any reply to the British ultimatum, and orders were at once given for the advance of the English troops. The advance is in three columns. One column attacked the Ali Musjid fort, on the 21st and after a stubbon resistance the garrison abandoned their works during Thursday night, the invaders taking possession early Friday morning. They then continued their march, pushing forward to Hazarapir, finding the inhabitants in the valley friendly. It is estimated that the killed and wounded in Thursday's engagement will reach three hundred. Latest advices state that the English have occupied Sibi without resistance, and have advanced close to Pishin, which place they expect to enter, unmolested by the Ameer's forces. The headquarters of the English column are now at Hazarapir, and an effort will be made to reach Fort Mohammed Azim, twenty miles ahead, in season to prevent its destruction by the garrison. It is reported that Russia will not interfere during the hostilities, but claims a voice in the settlement. The text of Lord Cranbrook's despatch to the Governor-General of India, fully explaining England's attitude toward the Ameer and the causes which have led to it, is published. In England, Parliament is to be convened Dec. 5, to received the papers in regard to the Afghanistan difficulty. There is said to have been serious difficulty in the Cabinet, which is unwilling to sustain Beaconsfield's policy. The destitution among the mechanics and laborers of Sheffield is reported to be appalling. Hundreds have been obliged to sell their furniture, and even their clothing, to procure food for their families. A public meeting has been called to devise means of relief. The United States, through its Minister at London, has paid to the British Government $5,500,000 in gold, the amount of the Halifax fisheries award. The Bank rate has been reduced, again. M. Gambetta and M. de Fourton, members of the French Chamber of Deputies, fought a duel on the 21st, but neither party was hurt. The German Vice Chancellor reports the necessity of larger revenue. There is a deficit in the last Prussian budget of 73,750,000 marks. The people of Rome gave King Humbert a most enthusiastic reception on his return. The city was decorated and illuminated. The defaulting treasurer of the Pullman Palace Car Company has been arrested in Lisbon, and $80,000 of the stolen money found on his person. Russia again expresses her determination to observe the treaty of Berlin.

The Chicago defaulter is confined in the civil prison at Lisbon. There are no further details of the Afghan campaign. The Russians are reported within ten or twelve marches of Herat, to which place the Ameer proposes to fall back in case of defeat. Russia and Roumania have come to an agreement respecting the passage of Russian troops through the Dobrudja, which is to be occupied by the Roumanians at once.

Later advices report a heavy failure of bankers in Rochdale, Eng. Trouble is spreading among the operatives of England. Twelve thousand cotton spinners at Oldham are on a strike against a five per cent. reduction of wages, and one hundred mills are closed. It is reported that Prince Gortschakoff and Prince Orloff have tendered their resignations to the Czar.

Advices from the Pacific Coast report a serious panic in mining stock, and a great shrinkage in quotations. A committee of miners who examined the Sierra Nevada expressed themselves satisfied. It is impossible to predict the result. The whalers at San Francisco report a very light catch. Some remarkable time on the trotting course is reported.

In paying the Halifax award to the English Government, Mr. Welsh clearly notified them that it would not be regarded as a precedent in any future negotiations respecting the fisheries.

The Vermont Legislature have voted to adjourn Nov 27. The bill for the relief of John P. Phair now seems likely to fail between the two branches on disagreement over certain amendments. The Senate refused to abolish the Board of Agriculture, but has since agreed to substitute for it a Superintendent of Agricultural Fairs.

The steamship Pomerania from New York for Hamburg was sunk by a collision, Monday, and 70 lives were lost.

The Stewart grave robbers are still at large, and the whereabouts of the body unknown.

Congress assembles next Monday.

For a whole week ending Sunday we had rainy weather. The rain fall was nearly 6½ inches, and some of the springs which have been running low will be well filled. We had quite a heavy gale, Friday, 22d, but fortunately few disasters are reported. The weather is cooler, and this Wednesday morning gives a better promise to the poultry dealers, who have been troubled by the unfavorable weather and low prices of the past fortnight.

FARMERS' MEETING AT HINGHAM.—*Free Return Tickets.*—The meeting of the State Board of Agriculture next week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, at the Agricultural Hall, Hingham, will be an occasion that no farmer ought to miss. The Old Colony Railroad has consented to give *free return tickets*, to be furnished by the Secretary, at the meeting. That will insure a large attendance. The programme is all that could be desired, and is everywhere pronounced "first rate." Come one, come all, and let us have a lively and interesting protracted meeting.

THE INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FAIR.

This Fair will open at the American Institute, New York, on Monday next. There is a prospect of an unequalled exhibition of the vast dairy interest. The prizes aggregate six thousand dollars. The entries of butter and cheese, of over two hundred pounds each, number nearly a thousand, and of single packages ten thousand, including many from abroad. There will be a full-sized creamery and cheese factory in operation, where the process of manufacturing butter and cheese will be shown, from the reception of the milk to its readiness for consumption. It will use from four to five hundred gallons of milk and about thirty gallons of cream, daily. The merits of the different improvements in dairy implements will thus be practically tested in competition with each other.

The committee to act as judges upon butter and cheese sent from New England are:—E. D. Mason, Richmond, Vt., President of the Vermont Dairymen's Association; E. F. Bowditch, of Millbrook Farm, Framingham, Mass.; G. W. Simpson, of Simpson, McIntyre & Co., Boston.

At the same time there is to be an exhibition of dairy cattle, which will be the largest ever made. So numerous have been the applications in this line, that, although accommodations were provided for two hundred head, the committee have been compelled to use great discrimination, thus insuring a superior class of exhibits. Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, of Framingham, has been appointed one of the judges in this department.

During the fair a portion of each day will be set apart for the purpose of listening to addresses from eminent speakers and writers upon dairy subjects, and a free interchange of opinion on subjects pertinent to the exhibition will be invited. Winners of premiums will be required to furnish the committee with a written description of the processes used in the manufacture. Additional premiums will be given where articles unenumerated above, of sufficient merit, are exhibited.

Although many of our readers are familiar with the fact that the dairy interest has grown rapidly within a comparatively short time, we question whether they are aware of its extent. From an address prepared by Mr. J. H. Reall, for the purpose of calling the attention to the Fair, we compile the following statistics:—

The production of butter and cheese as specialties began in the eastern part of New York twenty years ago. To-day it is one of its leading industries. Pennsylvania's best counties, Northern Ohio, several counties in Michigan, Northern Illinois, many of the best sections of Wisconsin and Iowa, California, and even Colorado have all gone extensively into the dairy business within a comparatively few years. California has changed from an importing to an exporting State within a short period, and Chicago, which formerly drew her supplies from the East, now ships 1,000,000 pounds annually to New York. So with Canada, which formerally bought of us. She now exports 80,000,000 pounds annually to Great Britain. The value of the land and cows in the United States employed in furnishing milk, butter, and cheese is estimated at $1,-300,000,000. There are over 3000 factories engaged in the business, besides tens of thousands of private dairies. New York State contains one-fourth of those within her borders. One manufacturer in Western New York has 40 factories—others have from 5 to 30 each. There are firms in this City who handle from $2,000,000 to $3,000,000 worth of butter and cheese annually. The entire production of the country is estimated at 500,000,000 pounds of butter and 350,000,000 pound of cheese annually.

There will be exported this year 130,000,-000 pounds of the latter and about 25,000,000 pounds of the former. Their combined value is about $350,000,000, or $50,000,000 more than that of the wheat crop, three times more than that of the oat crop, four times more than that of the potato crop, one-seventh more than that of the hay crop, one-third more than that of the cotton crop, and but one-fifth less than that of the corn crop. The production of butter and cheese has increased 33 per cent. this year, and tne exports have been in proportion. They have paid ocean freight to the amount of over $1,000,000—a sum almost sufficient to support a line of weekly steamers. The railroads realize from them for transportation over $5,000,000 annually, and the article of milk pays nearly as much more. Loaded on railway cars, 10 tons to each car, the butter and cheese produced in this country in one year would fill 22,000 cars and make a compact line 135 miles long. The number of cows in the United States is over 13,000,000, or 23 to each 100 persons. This is six times the number in Great Britain, over twice the number in France, two and a half times more than in Prussia, and more than in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Finland, Austria, Hungary, and Switzerland combined, although these countries together contain four times the population of the United States.

CANADA'S NEW VICEROY.

On Saturday, 23d, the steamer Sarmatian arrived at Halifax after a very rough passage. The Marquis of Lorne, and his wife, the Princess Louise, were among the passengers. On Sunday they went on board H. M. S. Black Prince, when they lunched with the Duke of Edinburg, afterward making an informal, brief landing and visiting the residence of Gen. McDougall.

In anticipation of the landing of the new Governor General, the city was decorated in a manner never before attempted by the citizens. The public buildings, business houses and private dwellings were one mass of evergreens and banners, arranged in every conceivable style. Quite a number of handsome arches spanned the principal thoroughfares and were decorated with appropriate mottoes.

Monday forenoon, the Sarmatian, attended by the fleet, moved up the harbor, and the royal party was greeted by salutes from the forts, and the fleet was gaily decked with flags and bunting. Large crowds were present to witness the landing at the dockyard. The formal landing was made at 1 P. M. Her Royal Highness and the Marquis of Lorne embarked on board the barge of the Black Prince and, preceded by Admiral Inglefield's barge and followed by the galleys of the ship in double line, were rowed between the two lines of the men-of-war. The yards were manned again and cheers given by the crews, the bands playing and the guards presenting arms. On landing the Marquis and Princess were received by civil, military and naval dignitaries, and the guard of honor from the 66th. A procession was formed, and proceeded to the Provincial Building, where, in the presence of the Dominion officials and many distinguished guests, the Marquis was formally inaugurated as Governor General. Addresses of welcome were read by the Mayor of Halifax, and the representatives of the leading societies, to which the Marquis made a brief and appropriate response. The Royal party then proceeded to the Admiralty House.

On Tuesday, the Marquis and Princess Louise were honored with a dinner and reception at the house of the Lieutenant-Governor, and in the evening there was a torchlight procession and general illumination in the city. Great preparations are made for the reception of the Marquis and Princess at Montreal and Ottawa, and a magnificent entertainment will be given at the former city on Friday of this week.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.—The National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, met at Richmond, Va., on Wednesday of last week, in the twelfth annual session. Twenty-five States were represented. The reports of the officers show that the Order is in a flourishing condition throughout the country. A public reception was held in the hall of the House of Delegates, at which speeches were made by Governor Halliday of Virginia, Hon. S. E. Adams of Minnesota, Master Granger; Col. William Lamb of Norfolk, Va., Dudley P. Chase of New Hampshire, George W. Kainer of Virginia, Hon. D. Wyatt, of Aiken, S. C.

THANKSGIVING DAY.—We go to press several hours earlier than usual, this week, on account of Thanksgiving, which holiday, we sincerely hope, will be thoroughly enjoyed by all our readers.

JUDGE APPOINTED.—Gov. Rice has appointed Hon. Adin Thayer as Judge of Probate for Worcester County, and on the 22d the appointment was confirmed by the Council.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Houghton, Osgood & Co. publish, in a holiday edition, Oliver Wendell Holmes' poem, read at the Centennial Celebration of Phillips Andover Academy, last June, entitled *"The School Boy."* At the time of its delivery, we copied the material portions of it, so that our readers have already realized what pathos and humor abound in its lines. The reminiscences of the author will be heartily enjoyed by all the elder graduates, while the younger ones will prize it the more highly as a sort of record of the school days of their predecessors. The poem abounds in striking thoughts, and we might quote freely, but will only give one couplet, apropos of the uselessness of controversy on doctrinal questions:—

Why should we look one common faith to find
Where one in every score is color-blind?
If here on earth they know not red from green,
Will they see better into things unseen?

The book is printed on heavy tinted paper, and beautifully illustrated by W. L. Sheppard, J. Appleton Brown, D. C. Hitchcock, and other artists. The cover has a very appropriate design, artistically displayed. Price, $4.00.

Lee & Shepard publish another of their illustrated poems for the holidays. This time it is *"Rock of Ages,"* the familiar hymn by Toplady. It is illustrated with much force and expression by Miss L. B. Humphrey, and the engraver has done his part well. A brief biographical sketch of the author serves as a preface to the book. Printed on heavy plate paper, and bound in gilt. Price, $1.50.

Roberts Bros., Washington St., have added to their "No Name Series" a volume of poems under the title *"A Masque of Poets."* It contains some 70 poems, all published anonymously, and each supposed to be by a different author. Of course, there are degrees of merit in these poems, and we could name two or three which would not be unworthy the signature of Whittier or Longfellow, while all are above mediocrity. It will be interesting to those who are familiar with the writings of our American poets to supply the authors' names in the index, and doubtless amusing to the publishers to see how far some of the guesses will be from the real authorship. A novelette in verse, "Guy Vernon," occupies nearly one-half the volume, and we have heard it attributed to Trowbridge, though we should much sooner judge him responsible for some of the shorter poems.

Since our last notice of Harper's *"Franklin Square Library"* it has been increased by several meritorious works. First is Black's "Macleod of Dare," a powerful work, but ending most tragical ly. "The Mistletoe Bough" is a collection of Christmas stories, edited by Miss M. E. Braddon. "Rare Pale Margaret" is an interesting love story. "Love's Crosses," a novel by F. E. M. Notley, author of "Time Shall Try," etc. This series is the cheapest form in which the best literature of the day can be obtained. It is neatly and legibly printed, and published at ten to fifteen cents a number.

Harpers' *"Half Hour Series"* is enlarged by the addition of three volumes. "Epochs of English History" is completed by "Modern England—1820 to 1874," by Oscar Browning, M. A. The leading events in English history during that period are very concisely and clearly set down. It is very convenient for reference. Price 25 cents. "A Dark Inheritance" is a story of much interest, by Mary Cecil Hay—price 15 cents. In "Stories from Virgil," Rev. Alfred J. Church has given the principal episodes in the Æneid, from the wooden horse and the sack of Troy to the defeat of the Latins and the death of Turnus. The translation appears to be done in a scholarly manner. Price, 25 cents.

The above are for sale by A. Williams & Co.

Estes & Lauriat republish from the pages of *Punch* a series of 108 cartoons, clearly showing the political history of Benj. Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield, during the past quarter of a century, —from the time when he first entered Parliament in 1843 to the present. These caricatures are by Leech, Doyle and Tenniel, and many of the prominent statesmen of England for the past thirty years are represented. The improvement in the later drawings is marked. Price, 60 cents in paper; $1.25 in cloth.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Atlantic* for December opens with the second paper on Florence, by Charles Eliot Norton. A paper which will attract much attention and is of great interest is a sketch of Sheridan's campaign in the Shenandoah, and especially of the famous battle of Winchester, written by B. W. Crowinshield, one of his staff. Brooks Adams contributes a seasonable paper on "Oppressive Taxation and its Remedy," and another notable contribution is entitled "Three Typical Workingmen." Other papers are "Pictures at the Exposition;" reviews of several recent novels; "The Nature of Music," a story by J. W. De Forest: the continuation of Howell's "Lady of the Aroostook;" "The Death Bryant," a poem by E. C. Stedman; several short poems; and the usual literary reviews and "Contributor's Club" department.

St. Nicholas, the model juvenile magazine of this country, gives its readers eight pages extra in its December issue. It opens with an illustrated poem by its editor; Miss Hale tells another comical story of the Peterkins; "Chicken Lizzie," a fairy story; some Italian fairy tales; "Paul Jones of Overlook Mountain," a capital story for boys; a paper on the microscope and its use; "Mistletoe Gathering;" a description of a Mexican mining camp; and many other interesting and instructive articles. The new serials "A Jolly Fellowship," and "Half a Dozen Housekeepers," are continued. The number is profusely illustrated.

The *Nursery* is attractive and lively, and closes its 24th volume in good style. It announces a reduction of price for the coming year. Published by John L. Shorey.

The above are for sale by A. Williams & Co.

OCEAN DISASTER.

OCEAN STEAMER SUNK.—LOSS OF LIFE.—The Steamship Pomerania, from New York for Hamburg, was sunk by a collision with a vessel, off Folkestone, England. The collision occurred during a dense fog, about 11.40 P. M., and the steamer sunk in about half an hour afterwards. Out of 220 persons aboard, 50 were lost, including the Captain and second and third officers. The others were saved by another steamer.

LATEST.—Dispatches Wednesday morning state that seventy-eight passengers are unaccounted for, and are probably drowned, and about sixty were rescued. The conduct of the gallant Captain Schwensen is praised by the survivors. He stood at his post and went down rather than save himself while a passenger remained in danger. His officers are also spoken of in terms of praise, but the sailors appear to have acted in a selfish, ungallant manner, allowing even the women to perish rather than be diverted from the saving of their own lives. Out of 111 sailors 108 were saved. It was supposed that the Captain had perished, but it appears that he was picked up by a passing vessel and taken into a Holland port.

FRAUD IN PRODUCE CONSIGNMENTS.—The Produce Exchange cautions farmers against sending produce to irresponsible parties, because it is believed that there are several bogus concerns sending out circulars from this city soliciting consignments. There is a large number of responsible and well-known commission merchants in this city, to any one of whom shippers may consign their produce with entire confidence. Circulars are sent out quoting higher prices than the market will warrant. In view of the fact that at this time large shipments of poultry and game are arriving, the committee decided to place in the poultry market an additional caution to shippers to warn them of irresponsible parties holding out extraordinary inducements. In the circulars referred to, the high prices are explained by the extra facilities enjoyed by the firm, and mention is generally made of an extensive retail department of which shippers enjoy the benefit. Shippers should be very careful to whom they consign, and our country readers should take notice of the warning given by the Produce Exchange.

N. H. BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.—This body held two days' session at Walpole, last week. A large and intelligent audience assembled each day and evening in the Town Hall. George K. Harvey of Surry presided. The topics discussed on Thursday were "Sheep Husbandry," by Dr. Charles F. Kingsbury of Lyme; "Dairy Management," by Hon. F. D. Douglas of Vermont; "Health and Disease," by Dr. Kingsbury; "Element of New Hampshire's Prosperity," by Hon. J. O. Adams, Secretary of the Board. Remarks were made by Hon. Moses Humphrey of Concord, Dr. W. B. Porter, Geo. B. Williams, Prof. Hitchcock, State Geologist, and others of Walpole. The Board and citizens visited the extensive dairy farm of George B. Williams, where they were most hospitably entertained.

CAN'T PREACH GOOD.—No man can do a good job of work, preach a good sermon, try a law suit well, doctor a patient, or write a good article when he feels miserable and dull, with sluggish brain and unsteady nerves, and none should make the attempt in such a condition when it can be so easily and cheaply removed by a little Hop Bitters. See advertisement, other column.

THE FOUR PER CENT. BONDS.

Last week the President of the Maverick Bank of this city, which institution has been made the special agency for the sale of the four per cent. bonds, and has sold an immense quantity of them, had an interview with Secretary Sherman, who stated that he would be able to report to Congress the sale of over one hundred millions of 4 per cents. during the past year, and he believed that the sales next year would amount to $300,000,000. The total amount of 4 per cent. bonds authorized is $1,000,000,000. The amount subscribed for on the 1st of December next will exceed one hundred and seventy-five millions. If the Secretary is not disappointed next year, therefore, he will be able to report at the opening of the Forty-sixth Congress the sale of nearly five hundred millions of 4 per cents. The whole amount of debt which will be redeemable on or before May 1, 1581, is about thirteen hundred and fifty millions, and, if the funding continues at the rapid rate predicted by the Secretary, the next Congress will need to increase the amount of 4 per cents. authorized to $1,500,000,000. Of course the Secretary bases his hopes on the expectation that the bastard silver dollar currency will not supplant the gold dollar, and that the gold currency will not be debased as is now proposed by some of the soft-money politicians.

BOSTON MUSEUM.—The new comic opera, *"H. M. S. Pinafore,"* was produced at the Museum last Monday. It abounds in healthy, wholesome fun, and light, pleasing music, and is well rendered by the company. We shall speak more fully of it, next week. The comedy, *"Nine Points of the Law"* precedes it, at each performance, giving Mr. Warren and Miss Clarke two very effective parts.

BUSINESS AND DULL WEATHER.—The appearance of Macullar, Williams & Parker's special notice in our columns serves to remind us that the dark rainy days of November are no insignificant factors in determining the conditions of city retail trade. All margins of profit vanish with bewildering swiftness before such baleful influences. Like the "Mistletoe Bough" is a collection of Christmas stories, edited by Miss M. E. Braddon. "Rare Pale Margaret" is an interesting love story. "Love's Crosses," a novel by F. E. M. Notley, author of "Time Shall Try," etc. This series is the cheapest form in which the best literature of the day can be obtained. It is neatly and legibly printed, and published at ten to fifteen cents a number.

Harpers' *"Half Hour Series"* is enlarged by the addition of three volumes. "Epochs of English History" is completed by "Modern England—1820 to 1874," by Oscar Browning, M. A. The leading events in English history during that period are very concisely and clearly set down. It is very convenient for reference. Price 25 cents. "A Dark Inheritance" is a story of much interest, by Mary Cecil Hay—price 15 cents. In "Stories from Virgil," Rev. Alfred J. Church has given the principal episodes in the Æneid, from the wooden horse and the sack of Troy to the defeat of the Latins and the death of Turnus. The translation appears to be done in a scholarly manner. Price, 25 cents.

The above are for sale by A. Williams & Co.

Estes & Lauriat republish from the pages of *Punch* a series of 108 cartoons, clearly showing the political history of Benj. Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield, during the past quarter of a century, —from the time when he first entered Parliament in 1843 to the present. These caricatures are by Leech, Doyle and Tenniel, and many of the prominent statesmen of England for the past thirty years are represented. The improvement in the later drawings is marked. Price, 60 cents in paper; $1.25 in cloth.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Atlantic* for December opens with the second paper on Florence, by Charles Eliot Norton. A paper which will attract much attention and is of great interest is a sketch of Sheridan's campaign in the Shenandoah, and especially of the famous battle of Winchester, written by B. W. Crowinshield, one of his staff. Brooks Adams contributes a seasonable paper on "Oppressive Taxation and its Remedy," and another notable contribution is entitled "Three Typical Workingmen." Other papers are "Pictures at the Exposition;" reviews of several recent novels; "The Nature of Music," a story by J. W. De Forest: the continuation of Howell's "Lady of the Aroostook;" "The Death Bryant," a poem by E. C. Stedman; several short poems; and the usual literary reviews and "Contributor's Club" department.

St. Nicholas, the model juvenile magazine of this country, gives its readers eight pages extra in its December issue. It opens with an illustrated poem by its editor; Miss Hale tells another comical story of the Peterkins; "Chicken Lizzie," a fairy story; some Italian fairy tales; "Paul Jones of Overlook Mountain," a capital story for boys; a paper on the microscope and its use; "Mistletoe Gathering;" a description of a Mexican mining camp; and many other interesting and instructive articles. The new serials "A Jolly Fellowship," and "Half a Dozen Housekeepers," are continued. The number is profusely illustrated.

The *Nursery* is attractive and lively, and closes its 24th volume in good style. It announces a reduction of price for the coming year. Published by John L. Shorey.

The above are for sale by A. Williams & Co.

Political Intelligence.

MEETING OF CONGRESS.

The forty-fifth Congress opens its last session on Monday of next week, and some of the committees have already assembled to prepare matters under their control for prompt action by the House. The Military Academy bill is completed, substantially the same as last year, and considerable progress is reported on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, and the fortification and pension bills. The Appropriation Committee expect to have several of the appropriation bills ready to report to the House the first week of the session, and after that they will bring them in as fast as the House can dispose of them. The estimates being very low, having been cut down in all of the departments in accordance with the suggestions of both the President and Secretary Sherman to the lowest point, the indications are that the appropriations will go through smoothly and swiftly. Mr. Atkins, chairman of the Appropriation Committee, is of opinion that the appropriation bills will pass both Houses at an early period of the session, and that all other necessary legislation will be passed. He is opposed to an extra session, and believes that if it were called it would do more harm than good.

Although the President's message is yet incomplete, certainly not yet made public, the correspondents are sending abstracts of its recommendations, which must be taken with considerable reserve. It is asserted that the question of political outrages at the South during the late Congressional elections will be made a prominent topic, and the probable tone of the message is thus foreshadowed:—

These violations will be condemned as forcibly depriving a large number of citizens in specified localities of the rights conferred by both National and State authority, thus preventing the results expressive of their will in the administration of public affairs. Such proceedings will be further deprecated because they indicate that the pacification of the South is not yet complete and because they cast reproach upon and endanger the integrity of free institutions. The subject will be respectfully presented to the consideration of Congress for such action as circumstances demand, with the view to preventing a recurrence of such wrongs and to secure absolute exercise of the right of suffrage. Owing to the decision of the United States Supreme Court, that the enforcement act was unconstitutional, it not being in specific accordance with the 15th Constitutional Amendment, and the failure of the House of the 43d Congress to pass the Senate bill designed to meet the judgment of that tribunal, there is no law to punish a class of cases affecting the colored men, which the act was intended to reach. The law relative to the election of members of Congress, however, affords a remedy for some of the reported wrongs, inflicting a fine of $500 and imprisonment for one year on any person found guilty of illegally preventing or obstructing the free exercise of voting, and a fine of $5000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years on those engaged in conspiracy for the same purpose.

Specie resumption will undoubtedly be a prominent topic with the President as it will with the Secretary of the Treasury. The President will announce the readiness of the Government to carry out the resumption law, and it is not believed that any steps to postpone such action can be made successful. The message will be given to the country Monday afternoon, and speculation as to its tenor would be useless, even if likely to be correct.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

The Legislature of Missouri at its coming session will choose two United States Senators, one for a full term of six years and another for the unexpired term of Mr. Bogy, deceased.

The Florida Supreme Court has decided that the three precinct returns rejected by the Alachua County Canvassing Board are valid and must be counted. This gives the election to Bisbee, Republican, for Congress, by about two hundred majority.

The Funding Board of Louisiana read, in executive session, a statement of the accounts due January 1, which shows a deficit of over $260,000 in the interest account over and above the estimated collections.

The Albany *Evening Journal* publishes the official returns of all the counties of New York State, as follows: Danforth, 391,341; Bradley, 353,422; Tucker, 75,194; Prohibition, 4225.

A Washington special says that Judge Ray of New Orleans has been appointed a special Assistant United States Attorney to aid in prosecuting offenders against the election laws in Louisiana.

The newly-elected Mayor of New Orleans has proposed to repudiate one-half the city debt. The proposition is condemned by leading citizens. The Mayor's inaugural was followed by a heavy decline in securities.

The total estimates of the Government for the next fiscal year, exclusive of those for permanent annual appropriations, are $129,-197,812; permanent annual appropriations, $145,939,438; total, $275,137,250; a decrease of $5,551,545 over the last estimates.

D. T. Corbin of South Carolina says he shall press his claims to the seat in the Senate now occupied by Gen. Butler.

One of the proposed amendments to the Constitution of Louisiana fixes the location of the capital, and the vote seems to have been very close, all but five parishes giving: For Baton Rouge, 37,047; for New Orleans, 37,998. New Orleans wins it.

It is officially announced that the Dominion Parliament will meet Dec. 5.

Gov. Hampton of South Carolina has issued a proclamation transferring the duties of the Executive office upon Lieutenant Governor Simpson. Inasmuch as Gov. Hampton is quite sure of being elected United States Senator, it is probable that he will not resume the office of Governor of South Carolina for any length of time. The accident by which his leg was broken causes Gov. Hampton to transfer the duties of the office for the present.

The Republican majority in the Senate of Maine will be compelled to choose between the Democratic and Greenback candidates for Governor, there having been no choice by the people, and the State Constitution providing that the House (which the Democrats and Greenbackers will control) shall submit to the Senate the names of two of the candidates from whom to choose the Governor. The Lewiston *Journal* has interviewed these two gentlemen, and finds that Dr. Garcelon, the Democratic candidate, holds pronounced specie-resumption views, while Mr. Smith, Greenbacker, agrees with Solon Chase that it would be desirable to have greenbacks made good as gold, but coin redemption is impracticable and unnecessary.

The Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff of Sumter County, S. C., were arrested Nov. 22, on a charge of resisting a process of the United States Court in arresting Sam Lee, who, it is alleged, was already in the custody of a United States Marshal as a witness in the United States Court.

Gen. J. R. Hawley, of Connecticut, has written a letter formally placing him in the field as a candidate for the United States Senate.

The count of the official return of votes at the recent election in this State has been completed. The vote for Governor was as follows:—Talbot, 134,725; Butler, 109,435; Abbott, 10,162; Miner, 1913; all others, 97.

Mayor Thos. A. Doyle, of Providence, R. I., has been renominated by the Republicans for the fifteenth term. The Democrats nominate Alfred W. Fisk; the Prohibitionists, Edwin Metcalf; the Greenbackers, Christopher R. Day, and the Anti-Doyle Republicans Charles P. Robinson. The election occurred on Tuesday, Nov. 26.

The Republicans of Dover, N. H., Tuesday, elected Joseph D. Guppey Mayor by 67 majority. The City Council is largely Republican. The sale of lager beer is not prohibited.

VERMONT LEGISLATURE.

On the 20th, the House receded from the amendment adding cider one month old to the bill prohibiting the sale of lager beer by a vote of 97 to 95. In the House, a bill giving married women the right to make contracts in their own name, the same as though single, was passed. A joint resolution relating to the Bland Silver bill was passed in concurrence with the Senate. A conference committee was appointed on the bill relating to persons convicted of capital offences.

On the 21st, the Senate voted to appropriate $10,000 for the Reform School. Wednesday, Nov. 27, was fixed as the day of final adjournment. The House passed the bill prohibiting fishing with nets in Lake Champlain. In joint assembly Daniel P. Webster, of Putney, was chosen Railroad Commissioner.

On the 22d, the bill taxing foreign deposits in savings banks one-half of one per cent. passed the House. A bill was passed allowing the town of Vershire, Orange county, to change the name to Ely, in honor of the President of the Vermont Mining Company, there located.

On Saturday, the bill abolishing the Board of Agriculture, which passed the House by a large mnjority, was rejected in the Senate. The bill relating to granting new trials, which passed the Senate in the interest of John P. Phair, was amended in the House and rejected by the Senate, which brought about a Conference Committee in which the House Committee concluded to recede from the amendment to the extent of placing the decision as to whether the convict has a prima facia case in one instead of two Judges. This was strongly opposed by the House, which refused to adopt the report of the Conference Committee —Yeas, 25; nays, 107. The House adheres to the original proposals of the amendment.

VERMONT LEGISLATURE.—On Monday, the bill relative to new trials for persons convicted of capital offences was passed with the amendments insisted upon by the House. The House rejected the bill for the commutation of Magoon's sentence, 100 to 90—a reconsideration was moved. The bill relating to tramps, similar to that of New Hampshire, was passed. Bill to appropriate $200 to pay counsel for John P. Phair, was refused a third reading in the House, but will come up again for reconsideration. The House decided it was not best to make any appropriation this year for needed enlargement of the State House. In joint assembly, the following were elected as Trustees of the University of Vermont and the State Agricultural College: Luke P. Poland of St. Johnsbury, Roswell Farnham of Bradford, Justus Dartt of Weathersfield.

The Markets.

BOSTON RETAIL PRICES.

Inside of Faneuil Hall Market.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27, 1878.

[Corrected weekly by HILTON & SHEPPARD, No. 5, *Veal and Mutton;* GEO. H. RUSSELL, Nos., 17 & 19 *Poultry and Game;* H. BIRD & CO., Nos. 38 & 40, *Beef, Pork, Lard and Hams;* C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO., Nos. 79 & 81, *Butter, Cheese and Eggs;* SANDS, FURBER & CO., Nos. 88 & 90, *Fruit and Vegetables;* SHATTUCK & JONES, No. 128, *Fish;* GEO. E. RICHARDSON & CO., No. 1, F. H. Square, *Fruit and Nuts.*]

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Butter, ₩ lb.—		Cheese, ₩ lb.	12 @ 15
Lump	30 @ 40	Sage, ₩ lb.	14 @ 15
Prime	25 @ 28	Neufchatel, ea	03 @ 04
2d quality	23 @ 25	Eggs, ₩ doz	20 @ 22
common,	18 @ 20		

Fruits and Berries.

Apples—		Concords, ₩ lb	15 @ 20
Baldwin, ₩ bbl	1 00 @ 2 00	Lemons, ₩ doz	25 @ 30
Cocoanuts, ea	05 @ 10	Oranges, ₩ doz	37 @ 50
Grapes—		Pears, ₩ pk	50 @ 1 25
Hamburg, lb	1 50 @ 2 00	Quinces, ₩ pk	@ 1 50

Fruits and Nuts—Dry and Canned.

Almonds, ₩ lb	25 @ 40	Pecans ₩ lb	@ 20
shelled, ₩ lb	50 @ 60	Prunes, ₩ lb	15 @ 20
Apples, ₩ lb	8 @ 12	Peaches, ₩ lb	20 @ 25
Castana, ₩ qt	10 @ 12	₩ qt can	@ 30
Chestnuts, qt	@ 20	Raisins, lay'rs ₩ lb	25 @ 33
Citron, ₩ lb	25 @ 38	keg, ₩ lb	10 @ 15
Dates, ₩ lb	10 @ 12	Shagbarks, ₩ qt	10 @ 15
Figs, ₩ lb	15 @ 20	Walnuts, Englishlb	15 @ 20
Filberts, ₩ qt	@ 20	Naples,	@
Peanuts, ₩ lb	10 @ 15	Zante curr'ts, ₩ lb	10 @ 12

Vegetables.

Beans, ₩ pk	50 @ 75	₩ bushel	1 00 @ 1 05
Beets, ₩ pk	25 @ 30	₩ barrel	2 75 @ 3 00
Cabbage, ea	10 @ 15	sweet, ₩ lb	@ 3
Carrots, ₩ pk	@ 25	Sage and Thyme—	
Cauliflower, ea	15 @ 40	₩ bunch	@ 6
Celery, ₩ bch	10 @ 15	Salsify, ₩ bch	@ 10
Leeks, bch	6 @ 8	Spinach, ₩ pk	@ 15
Lettuce ₩ head	@ 10	Squash, ₩ lb	@ 3
Onions, ₩ pk	@ 35	Marrow, ₩ lb	@ 2½
Parsnips, ₩ pk	@ 25	Hubbard, ₩ lb	@ 3
Peas, split, ₩ qt	@ 10	Turnips, ₩ pk	@ 25
Potatoes, ₩ pk	@ 35		

Meats—Fresh.

Beef, ₩ lb—		Lard, leaf	@ 8
Sirloin steak	23 @ 25	Tried	@ 9
Round do	14 @ 15	Mutton—	
Rib, roast	10 @ 20	legs, ₩ lb	14 @ 18
Chuck rib	@ 8	fore qr, ₩ lb	@ 10
Plate and nvls	7 @ 8	chops	14 @ 18
Soup pieces	3 @ 4	Pork, ₩ lb	
Liver

New England Farmer.

Vol. LVII. Old Series.
Vol. XXXIII. New Series. } 1878.

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Atlantic Monthly	$5 50
Harper's Monthly	5 50
" Weekly	5 50
" Bazar, (weekly,)	5 50
Lippincott's Magazine	5 50
Eclectic Monthly	6 35
Godey's Ladies' Book	3 75
Peterson's Magazine	3 65
Arthur's Home Magazine	4 00
Scribner's Monthly	5 50
Ballou's Monthly Magazine	3 50
American Agriculturist	3 00
Appleton's Journal	5 00
Ladies' Floral Cabinet	3 15
Littell's Living Age, (weekly,)	9 00
Popular Science Monthly	6 35
Scientific Farmer	3 00

Juveniles.

St. Nicholas	4 60
The Nursery	3 25
Wide Awake	3 75
Youth's Companion	3 75

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In no other way can the leading periodicals be obtained so cheaply as above offered, and we regard it as a special inducement for our subscribers to pay in advance, and secure desirable periodicals for their families at a decided reduction in price.

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N. B.—After receiving the first number of the magazine ordered, subscribers will know that we have fulfilled our part of the contract, and any complaint of non-reception, or order for change, *should be addressed to the publishers of the periodical in question and not to us.*

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FREEMAN ROBBINS, . . . ORANGE, VT.
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Subscribers are requested to forward their subscriptions without waiting for the Agent to call. The date on their label will always show how far they have paid up.

General Intelligence.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

Charles Dickens' home, at Gadshill, has already been sold under the auctioneer's hammer, Mr. Charles Dickens, the eldest son of the novelist, having removed to London. Recently, too, the original Bleak House at Broadstairs—so named, as all readers of Dickens know, because of its being the very opposite of bleak—has passed into the possession of a Kentish board of guardians of the poor, and is to be used as a convalescent home.

Mr. Thomas C. Clarke of Philadelphia, one of the ablest of American civil engineers, writes to the New York *World* in regard to Miss Harriet Hosmer's new invention and "magnetic motor" and the claims of Mr. J. Linton Chapman as its discoverer. He states that when in Rome last March Miss Hosmer showed him a drawing of the motor, and stated that she had selected Mr. Chapman, who was then in England, to superintend its construction, and that she proposed to give him an interest in the patent for his services. When in London in May he called on Mr. Chapman and saw the model of the invention in its incomplete state, and observed that there was no substantial difference between it and Miss Hosmer's drawing.

It is said that the grand receptions extended to Gen. Grant in Europe are wholly due to his military reputation, in proof of which it is related that when the Prince of Wales addressed Gen. Grant, he said: "I welcome you to England, General, as the second—the American—Wellington." King Alfonso of Spain also greeted him especially as a warrior.

Maggie Mitchell has adopted the two orphan children of her only brother, who fell a victim to the yellow fever at Memphis. Their mother and two of their brothers died soon after their father.

Mrs. Hannah Tufts, widow of the late Charles Tufts, founder of Tufts College, died at her residence on Washington street, Somerville, yesterday morning. She was over eighty years of age, and leaves a large property. She had no children.

Mrs. Frances Freeling Hood Broderip, only daughter of the celebrated humorist, Tom Hood, and widow of the late Rev. John Somerville Broderip, died at Clevedon, England, on the 3d inst. In conjunction with her brother, the late Tom Hood, Jr., Mrs. Broderip wrote the "Memorials of Thomas Hood," selected the "Early Poems and Sketches" of her father, and more recently edited the collected "Works of Thomas Hood." Mrs. Broderip was authoress of "Wayside Fancies," "Wild Roses; or Simple Stories of Country Life," and many other volumes of tales and fables of fairyland. She was a pleasant and graceful writer, and had much of her father's genial humor and pathos.

Hon. N. V. Whitehouse died on the 21st, in Gonic Village, N. H. He was a highly respected citizen of Rochester, having held several important offices in town. He had served in the Legislature and was a member of the Governor's Council in 1855 and 1857. For many years he was agent of the Gonic Manufacturing Company and was a large owner in that corporation and also in the Cocheco Woolen Company at East Rochester. At the time of his death he was President of the Gonic National Bank and Treasurer of the Gonic Five Cents Savings Bank.

THE STEWART ROBBERY.—There is absolutely nothing new to report. The body still remains undiscovered, and the sensational stories about the arrest of parties implicated are not confirmed.

SALE OF THE MECHANICS' EXHIBITION BUILDING.—The building erected for the Mechanics' Fair has been sold to Alfred A. Marcus, agent for the David King of Israel Orthodox Fair, for the sum of $7500.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

The Novelty Works in Wethersfield, Conn., were burned Monday morning. Loss about $30,000; insured for $21,000. Hopson & Brainard, the lessees of the property, are insured for about $4000. They lose all their stock.

At Maysville, N. Y., Nov. 21, a fire originating in the Post Office destroyed a dozen stores. Loss $20,000—insured $10,000.

The suburban residence of George E. Hall on Columbia avenue, Philadelphia, was burned Nov. 22. Loss $20,000.

At Rochester, N. Y., Monday night, a fire was discovered in the extensive five-story buildings owned by James T. Stewart and occupied by several large shoe shops, croquet factories, works and salesrooms of the Rochester Bracket Company, works and salesrooms of the Wire Whip Company, and salesrooms of Howe & Co.'s and Forsyth & Co.'s scales. Loss probably $125,000.

Runcey's Hotel, Masonic Hall and Dixon Hotel, Port Dalhouse, Ont., were burnt Nov. 21. Loss $15,000.

SPECIE RESUMPTION.

The time fixed for resumption, January 1, is rapidly approaching, and the Treasury is amply prepared to maintain the Government bills at par with gold. There is absolute confidence in the department as to the ability to continue specie payments, and one official is reported as saying:—

There certainly will be no trouble for the business community outside of New York to obtain all the silver at least that they want for custom purposes. Arrangements will be made to furnish silver dollars to anybody through the mints, free of cost of transportation. They can be obtained at any subtreasury or Government depository. Silver certificates can also be obtained, and greenbacks will be received for customs, so that the Government will maintain all its dollars at par throughout the country. "Besides," said this official, "the coin necessities of the Government for resumption purposes are not as great as they are generally supposed. There are now nominally outstanding $346,600,000 in greenbacks. To meet this the Government has in its vaults of coin absolutely available, deducting all due to private parties, $140,000,000. There are also under control of the Government at its depositories, which cannot be presented for redemption, about $100,000,000 greenbacks. The smallest estimate of the amount of greenbacks lost or will not be presented for redemption is $20,000,000, making a total of $260,000,000. This leaves the total sum to be provided for, not already covered by the Government, $86,000,000 greenbacks. There is no probability that the $140,000,000 coin on hand will be exhausted, much less that there will be any necessity to provide for the $86,000,000 not now covered by coin in the treasury. Suppose that every inhabitant of the United States for his own use retains two dollars legal tender, that would prevent any demands being made upon the Treasury for the remaining $86,000,000.

PAYMENT OF THE HALIFAX AWARD.

On Thursday, 21st, Minister Welsh paid over to the British Government $5,500,000 in gold, which was formally acknowledged by Lord Salisbury. Accompanying the payment, however, Mr. Welsh submitted a paper setting forth his instructions from the President to pay the sum in accordance with the award of the Fisheries Commission, and closing with the following significant notice, which will be strongly supported by all who believe that the award was an excessive one for the privileges conferred:—

I am, besides, instructed by the President to say that the Government of the United States deems it of the greatest importance to the common and friendly interests of the two Governments, in all future treatment of any questions relating to the North American fisheries, that Her Britannic Majesty's Government should be distinctly advised that the Government of the United States cannot accept the result of the Halifax Commission as furnishing any just measure of the value of a participation, by our citizens, in the inshore fisheries of the British Provinces, and it protests against the actual payment now made being considered by Her Majesty's Government as in any sense an acquiescence in such measure, or as warranting any inference to that effect.

THE VERMONT WIFE MURDERER.—E. C. Hayden, whose effort for a new trial failed, and whose sentence was published last week, has caused to be published a full statement of his relations with his wife and his connection with her murder. He details very fully the struggle he had in resisting his habit of drinking, and his honest efforts to reform and be a steady, kind husband; also the alleged interposition of her friends, which finally resulted in her taking steps to procure a divorce. He does not deny his guilt, but professes to have no remembrance of committing the crime. His actions at the time of the tragedy are, he says, entirely unknown to himself, and the first he knew of it he found himself in custody.

SILVER AND GREENBACKS.—That the people prefer greenbacks to silver for the transaction of business is shown by the fact that the legal tender silver dollars are coming back into the United States sub-treasury in this city faster than they are paid out. During the five business days ending the 21st, Assistant Treasurer Haven received $14,199 in silver dollars and paid out only $3237. On the whole the Assistant Treasurer finds that there has been an increase of the receipts over the payments, and that a large proportion of the silver that has been disbursed has been returned.

TERRIBLE COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—A terrible explosion occurred at the coal mine in Sullivan, Ind., Nov. 21. It was caused by the ignition of the flames of a lamp with the gas, and terrific velocity was added by the fact of there being eight kegs of powder below. There were 30 men in the mines; 13 were killed outright, 8 or 10 wounded, and many of the others are suffering so from suffocation that their lives hang by a thread. Tom and Sam Handford, two of the proprietors, are among the killed.

THE PACIFIC RAILWAYS.—The Chicago *Times* learns that a plan is under consideration and the details nearly arranged by which the Union and Central Pacific roads are to be placed under one management, with Sidney Dillon as President and Clark as General Manager. Conferences have been secretly held in New York and San Francisco lately to this end.

NEW TRIAL FOR A MURDERER.—On account of a slight error in the indictment, Jason P. Scribner, recently convicted at Augusta, Me., for the murder of two of his children, will have a new trial, as the former one has come to naught. The trial will come off in January, before Judge Libbey.

ARE FAT PEOPLE HEALTHY?

Why are fat people always complaining? asks some one who entertains the popular though erroneous notion that health is synonymous with fat. Fat people complain because they are diseased. Obesity is an abnormal condition of the system, in which the saccharine and oleaginous elements of the food are assimilated to the partial exclusion of the muscle-forming and brain-producing elements. In proof of this, it is only necessary to assert the well-known fact that excessively fat people are never strong, and seldom distinguished for mental powers or activity. Besides, they are the easy prey of acute and epidemic diseases, and they are the frequent victims of gout, heart disease, and apoplexy. Allan's Anti-Fat is the only known remedy for this disease. It contains no acid, is absolutely harmless, and is warranted to remedy the most confirmed case of obesity, or corpulency.

CONSUMPTION CURED.—An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure for consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 149 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

YOU CAN BE HAPPY.—If you will stop all your extravagant and wrong notions in doctoring yourself and families with expensive doctors or humbug cure-alls, that do harm always, and use only nature's simple remedies for all your ailments—you will be wise, well and happy, and save great expense. The greatest remedy for this, the great, wise and good will tell you, is Hop Bitters—believe it. See advertisement, in another column.

ANOTHER DEFALCATION.—George B. Stetson, for many years selling agent of the Bridgewater, Mass., Iron Company, afterwards President, and then Director and Treasurer, but having no connection with the concern for some time past, proves to be a defaulter to the company for $23,000, money collected and not paid over. The Company is very nearly secured against any loss by the attachment of stock owned by Stetson.

The World Abroad.

CABLE DISPATCHES.

Great Britain.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—Appalling distress and destitution exists among the mechanics and laborers of Sheffield in consequence of the business depression. Hundreds are living in tenements without clothing or furniture, which they have been forced to sell to procure food. They are without fuel and dependent on the charity of their neighbors for subsistence. The Mayor has called a public meeting to devise relief.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—Minister Welsh has paid over to her Majesty's Government the amount of fisheries award by a draft upon Morton, Rose & Co. for $5,500,000.

Bank to-day reduced discount from 6 to 5 per cent. Bullion in Bank increased £510,000 during the week.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—A quarter of a million pounds sterling has been raised in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Paisley and Greenock for the relief of the shareholders of the Glasgow Bank.

BANGOR, Wales, Nov. 22.—Orders have been issued for the closing of the two largest slate manufactories here. Most of the quarries in this district are reducing their force and lowering their wages.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, Nov. 22.—Representatives of mine owners and miners compromised a dispute about rules and hours, and the miners accepted 7½ per cent. reduction of wages, thereby averting a threatened great strike.

LONDON, Nov. 22.—The strike of the Clyde shipbuilders is virtually ended, the riveters accepting the contracts at the reduction. Some of the engineers have also resumed work and the apprentice carpenters will resume on Monday.

NEW YORK, Nov. 23.—A London special says the British Parliament will be summoned on the 5th of December. This decision is the result of a row in the Cabinet. It will be remembered that a committee, headed by Lord Lawrence, announced its intention to call upon the Premier for the purpose of urging the necessity of an extra session. Lord Beaconsfield semi-officially announced to the public that he would not receive the deputation. The Marquis of Salisbury, Stafford Northcote and Mr. Cross insisted in the last Cabinet meeting that the condition of affairs in the East was sufficiently grave to justify an extra session of Parliament. Beaconsfield, however, strenuously objected, and brought all his powers of persuasion and coercion to bear upon the Cabinet to defeat the wishes of his colleagues. He was finally defeated, a majority casting their votes in favor of the assembling of Parliament. The real cause of the stubborn opposition to the Premier was that his colleagues were afraid to give in any further in his policy. The Cabinet Council met on Wednesday, at which the date of the assembling of Parliament will be fixed. It is probable that the session will last about a fortnight.

LONDON, Nov. 25.—J. & J. Fenton & Sons, private bankers of Rochdale and Haywood, have suspended. Their liabilities in Rochdale alone are 2,500,000. The woolen trade is largely involved.

The Liberal leaders held a meeting to-day and drew up a statement declaring that the portion of Lord Cranbrook's dispatch which endeavors to fix upon Gladstone's Government the responsibility for the Afghan war is inaccurate and incompicie.

OLDHAM, Eng. Nov. 25.—One hundred mills, employing 12,000 hands, have stopped running. Some of the oldest firms have not enforced the reduction. It is not thought that the strike will last long, as limited companies, working on borrowed capital, cannot afford to stop.

Russia.

BERLIN, Nov. 25.—The rumor is revived that Prince Gortschakoff and Prince Orloff have tendered resignations. It is further reported that the Czar has notified Prince Gortschokoff that he has postponed his decision on the subject until he returns to St. Petersburg. This is considered as indicating that Gortschakoff's resignation will be accepted.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—The *Daily News* announces in a semi-official form that Count Schouvaloff will soon retire from the London embassy.

France.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—A dispatch from Paris says that a duel with pistols between Gambetta and Defourton was fought today. Only one exchange of shots was had and neither party was hurt.

LONDON, Nov. 22.—The *Times'* Paris dispatch says that the conditions of the duel between Gambetta and De Fourton provided only for one exchange of shots. At the conclusion the seconds of both bands, the principals left their hats and all left the ground. Rifled pistols were used. The conditions of the duel provided for a single fire at 35 paces, reminding one of a burlesque encounter at the Vaudeville Theatre with swords at 10 paces. The duel will excite laughter and surprise and will add nothing to the reputation of the parties. As De Fourton had the choice of weapons, his seconds probably laid down the conditions.

Germany.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—At the opening of the Prussian Parliament yesterday Count Stolberg Wernigerode, Vice Chancellor, said that the Government relies upon the co-operation of the Chambers for the removal of financial difficulties. Last year's surplus, he said would be almost entirely required to cover the increasing contributions of Prussia towards the German Exchequer. The interest on the public debt likewise will be considerably increased and there are other unavoidable expenses.

BERLIN, Nov. 20.—The deficit is stated to exceed 73,000,000 marks, and but for the last remnant of the French indemnity being distributed to meet it would have occurred a year ago. It is mainly occasioned by the steady increase of military expenditures, accompanied by the decrease of indirect taxes and the proceeds from Government railways, mines and forest.

BERLIN, Nov. 23.—The *Post* says: In consequence of the prominent position in which the Duke of Cumberland is placed at present in Copenhagen, the German Envoy and Secretary have left that capital, closing the Legation.

Italy.

ROME, Nov. 20.—Passanente, the would-be assassin of King Humbert, manifested perfect unconcern and brutal self-assurance while undergoing preliminary examination. It was evident that he had calmly meditated the act and fully made up his mind to suffer the consequences. To a question as to whether he had intended to kill the King, or merely to wound him, he answered: "My intention was to finish him."

ROME, Nov. 24.—The King, Queen, Prince of Naples and Duke of Aosta arrived to-day and were most enthusiastically received. They were accompanied from Naples by Signor Carolio, Presidents of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, and several Ministers, and were welcomed at the station by all the members of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, civil and military authorities, 60 Guilds and Workmen's Associations, with flags and bands, and escorted to the Quirinal. The route of the procession was lined with stands for sight seers, and vast crowds cheered their Majesties from one end of the line to the other. The King and Queen appeared much affected. They were obliged after reaching the palace to appear on the balcony four times. The whole city was decorated with flags and streamers, and to-night there is a general illumination.

ROME, Nov. 25.—Signor Cairoli suffers considerably from inflammation of his wound, and will be obliged to keep his bed some days.

News is received from Florence that the man arrested for throwing a bomb into the procession there has confessed his crime. The King and Queen received Senators and Deputies to-day.

General Items.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—A cablegram has been received by Geo. M. Pullman from the American Consul at Lisbon, stating that Chas. W. Angell, the defaulting Secretary of the Pullman Palace Car Company, has been arrested there, and $80,000 of the money taken by him was found on his person. It is believed there will be little difficulty in securing extradition.

LONDON, Nov. 24.—Advices from Orenburg state that the Russian fort Naryn has been strongly reinforced in consequence of the concentration of Chinese troops on the frontier and the reported pacification of Khotan. The principal insurgents of Khotan have fled into Russian territory. It is said the Chinese have murdered the youngest son of Yakoob Beg.

The Greek Chamber passed a bill Saturday introducing a conscription on the Prussian system. The bill will come into operation Jan. 1, 1880.

LISBON, Nov. 25.—Charles W. Angell, the fugitive defaulter, is confined in the civil prison. The $80,000 which were recovered were found deposited in his name in the Bank of Portugal.

LONDON, Nov. 25.—In the Spanish Congress today Senor Castellar made an eloquent speech against the press bill, which he denounced as a confiscation of the freedom of the press. He was frequently cheered during the speech, which lasted two hours. Prime Minister Canovas del Castillo spoke in reply.

The Afghanistan War.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—The Government has published a long dispatch from Lord Cranbrook, Secretary of State for India, to Lord Lytton, Viceroy of India, recapitulating the negotiations with Afghanistan. The dispatch traces the first estrangement between England and the Ameer of Afghanistan to the refusal of the Gladstone Government in 1873 to give a definite answer as to how far they would help him if he was threatened by Russia. The dispatch is a summary of the papers which Lord Beaconsfield in his letter to Lord Lawrence promised should be distributed before the end of the month, and is at once an indictment of the frontier policy of Gladstone's administration, a defence of the policy of the present Government, and a reply to the anti-war agitation and the causes thereof.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—The *Standard* announces that no reply to the British ultimatum has been received from the Ameer of Afghanistan, and orders have accordingly been sent to India for the troops to advance.

A dispatch from Bombay says: The *Times of India* publishes a dispatch from Thul, dated today, which announces that the British troops occupied Fort Kapion without resistance, the Afghans retiring hurriedly the day before them. Fort Kapion, or Kapuyunga, is a fortress beyond the frontier line, opposite Thal, or Thul. Its abandonment or surrender was anticipated.

The *Globe's* Lahore correspondent says the British troops crossed the frontier this morning. A dispatch from Thul says the 10th Hussars crossed the frontier this morning and found Fort Kapiyanga abandoned. Three children were left there. Roberts's force at once moved on Fort Ahmedishams, five miles further up the valley.

LAHORE, Nov. 21.—The British force advancing on Quettah has arrived at Kushlak, ten miles distant. The cold is intense, and about 100 men are sick in each regiment. Warm clothes are urgently required. Considerable anxiety is felt regarding the weather. A proclamation of the Viceroy was read to the Belooch chiefs, stating that the war was only to be waged against the Ameer, and advising the people to remain at home. The Quettah column numbers about 5269 men. A division commanded by Lieutenant General Donald Stewart, numbering 6330 men, has left Moolton for Quettah.

LONDON, Nov. 22.—The *Standard's* correspondent telegraphs from the camp of the Khyber column on Thursday, at daybreak, as follows: The first and second brigade have long since started. The first intends to turn the fort of Ali Musjid by a mountain road, while the second attacks the mountain of Kohtoskos, commanding the fort, on which the Afghans have placed a battery. The third and fourth brigades are just about to start by the main road up the pass, but the latter movement is only intended as a demonstration, as it is thought the turning movement will compel the Afghans to abandon their defences.

A dispatch from Jamrood dated the 22d says: The Afghans abandoned Ali Musjid in the night, Gen. Tytler's brigade having occupied the defile in their rear. We took possession this morning without firing a shot and the disposition for advancing is now being made.

The *Advertiser* says that a private telegram received in London estimates the killed and wounded in the operations in Khyber pass at 300.

The *Standard's* dispatch from Thul reports that the Khurum column has formed a great camp at Fort Kapuyunga. The cavalry and a portion of the infantry and artillery have pushed forward eight miles further to Hazaraplr. The inhabitants of the valley are friendly and are bringing in supplies freely.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* is informed that the Cabinet Council to-day decided to summon Parliament to meet in December in order to produce the Afghan papers.

The *Times'* Berlin correspondent reports that Gen. Kauffmann, while presenting a sword to the Afghan envoy at Tashkend for transmission to the Ameer, declared that whoever sided with Russia need not fear that a hair of his head would be injured.

LONDON, Nov. 23. A dispatch to the *News* dated Jamrood, Friday, says: The garrison of Ali Musjid has bolted precipitately, leaving arms, food, 21 cannon and 40 or fifty wounded.

A considerable number of prisoners have been taken and it is reported that the Afghan commander is among them. Considerable firing was heard up the pass this (Friday) morning in the direction of Tytler's turning force. It is believed the Afghans are not in condition to make further resistance.

The *Times* in its military article says many reasons make it appear probable that the winter campaign will close with the occupation of the Daka Kurm and Peshin valleys. Winter is drawing near, the cold is intense, and fuel and forage in the mountainous districts are scarce, so that for prudential reasons the Indian Government will not care to entangle its supplies too far in the hills at this season until their communications are more secure and their commissariat and transport arrangements on a more approved footing. The three columns, as at present constituted, are too weak for more extended operations in the direction of Jelalabad, Ghazni and Candahar. Were General Maude's division massed at Jamrud, had General Roberts strong supports at Rohat, and if General Primrose were echeloned between Sukur and Quettah we should be inclined to believe in the possibility of a further advance. As it is, from a military point of view, we doubt its practicability.

LAHORE, Nov. 23. The column of the British army advancing into Afghanistan by way of Quetta has occupied without resistance a place called Sibi, within the Ameer's territory, due East of Dazar.

BERLIN, Nov. 23. The National *Zeitung* says: respecting the policy of the Russian government in regard to the war in Afghanistan: "Russia being satisfied that the war must result in a British victory, does not contemplate intervention or interference while hostilities last, but intends to claim a voice in the settlement of the terms of peace. It bases its claim upon the announcement that a rectification of the Indo-Afghan frontier is proposed, which the Government of the Czar is not prepared to submit to without a previous understanding between England and Russia."

Russia will not consent to the annexation or destruction of Afghanistan nor to the permanent acquisition by England of the positions commanding the passes of Balkh. It is with the view to making its voice heard at the conclusion of the war that Russia has ordered Col. Lamakine to push on with his troops, now stationed on the Attrek, to Narbudan, at the commencement of which Samarcand has been directed to continue to march.

LAHORE, Nov. 24. It is believed the greater part of the garrison of Ali Musjid has been taken prisoners. Major Cavagnrtic telegraphs that the hill tribes have intercepted 600 Afghan soldiers and deprived them of arms and clothing.

LONDON, Nov. 25.—The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* thinks Gen. Brome's column will go to Jellalabad via Khoorm, and that the junction of Fokt and Gen Biddulph's Quetta column to Candahar, and these will probably be their wintering stations.

The *Times'* Berlin dispatch says: It is expected at St. Petersburg that Dost Ameer of Afghanistan will go to Herat in the event of defeat. It is rumored that a corps under the Russian General Lomakine is ten or twelve marches from Herat.

The *Standard's* dispatch from Lahore says the majority of the prisoners taken at Ali Musjid have been released.

The Eastern Question.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—The *Times* correspondent at Pesth says that the Turks are regarding more favorably the Russian proposition that the Sultan should recognize the validity of the San Stefano treaty stipulations not abrogated at the treaty of Berlin.

PESTH, Nov. 22.—Count Andrassy has informed the delegations that Prince Gortschakoff, the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, has declared to the Porte that East Roumelia would only be evacuated three months after the Porte signed a treaty replacing the treaty of San Stefano. Austria's views being asked by several powers, she declared the treaty was a Russo-Turkish affair, but that the postponement of the evacuation of East Roumelia was contrary to the treaty of Berlin. Russia admitted this view and disavowed Labanoff's declaration. Russia has since emphasized her wish to conscientiously execute the Treaty of Berlin by demanding that the Porte shall do likewise. The expectation that the Porte will do so is justified by the benefits she derives from the treaty.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 25.—In pursuance of the treaty of Berlin, a Bulgarian Assembly, composed of Bishops, functionaries and notables, has been summoned to meet at Tirnova the 27th of December, to prepare and organize laws for the Province. The Assembly is to complete this task in April, and then elect a Prince.

BUCHAREST, Nov. 25.—It is officially announced that Russia and Roumania have arrived at an understanding by which the regulation of the treaty of Berlin, relative to the passage of Russian troops through Roumania, is extended to the Dobrudja. The matter is thus settled in accordance with Roumanian wishes. It is confirmed that the Roumanians will enter the Dobrudja Tuesday.

BERLIN, Nov. 26.—The *Post* says that the effect of the Afghan war will be that England will have to renounce the idea of maintaining the Turkish rule in Eastern Roumelia, because, even if successful in Afghanistan, she will need her Indian forces in Asia, and be unable to furnish them as a threat on the European theatre of war.

FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—Contrary to general expectations the stock panic continued to-day. The outlook was more favorable at the early session of the Board this morning, but at 11 o'clock another break occurred, Sierra Nevada going down to 95, Union to 55, other Comstocks sympathizing with the leaders. In the afternoon there was a partial recovery. The latest despatch from Virginia says that all is perfectly quiet, and there is not the slightest danger of trouble of any kind. A miners' committee has gone to examine Sierra Nevada.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 21.—A Virginia dispatch says the committee of miners who last night examined the Sierra Nevada agree that the mine presents a fine appearance, and express themselves satisfied with the result of the examination.

During the past 30 days 17 whalers have arrived at San Francisco from the North, bringing 7700 barrels of oil, 60,800 pounds of whalebone and 28,000 pounds of ivory. The Siberia is the only vessel now expected, and will not add materially to the above totals. The catch is unusually light.

The October yield of precious metals on the Pacific coast is estimated at $2,250,000, being the lightest month for years.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 22.—A Virginia dispatch says that Frank Osbiston and other experts visited the Sierra Nevada mine to-day. They took samples from the face of the cross-cut which assayed from $200 to $600. On the floor of the cross-cut, two or three feet from the face were taken, assaying from $30 to $90. After the session of the Board this afternoon there was a slight advance, but operators hardly know what to think of the market, and it is impossible to forecast what tomorrow may bring forth.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—At the Oakland track to-day the ten-mile trot between Controller and Red Cross was won handily by the latter, former in the fastest time on record—27.23½; Red Cross, 27.35. At Chico, Rarus and Sweetser trotted, best two in three, for a purse of $1000, with $500 to be added if Goldsmith Maid's time on the same track (2.14½) was beaten. A high wind prevailed. Sweetser won the first heat in 2.18, Rarus winning the second and third in 2.15 and 2.18¾.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 25.—A man giving the name of G. Saville registered at the Baldwin Hotel on the 8th instant, and induced E. J. Baldwin to purchase for him mining stock to the amount of $25,000, and transferred as security a letter of credit on the Union Bank of London and two £10 notes on the same bank. Inquiry made through the Bank of California showed the letter and notes to be forgeries. Saville was arrested after a prolonged search in this city and Oakland. He claims that he purchased the letter and notes in good faith, but information in the hands of the police rendereth it almost certain that he is one of the gang of which a certain W. J. Floswell, arrested in New York on the 7th inst. for passing forged notes on the Union Bank of London, was the leader. Saville after leaving New York went to St. Louis, where he passed for an English nobleman and married a beautiful girl from Boston; thence he went to Denver, and then to this city. He denies complicity in the crime, and urges that he simply resembles the man wanted.

A dispatch from Cascades, Columbia river, says that the expedition sent out by General Howard for the purpose of capturing renegade Indians has met with complete success. Capt. Boyle, with Lieuts. Cornman and Shaffner, surrounded their camp at night in John Day Valley and captured the whole outfit. Eight of the principal chiefs are en route to Vancouver, and the rest were sent to Warm Spring reservation.

Miscellaneous Items.

☞ Canal navigation throughout the State of New York closes Dec. 7.

☞ Middleboro' has voted a water supply, and to petition the next Legislature for a grant to take water from Memasket river, build water works, and issue bonds to the amount of $65,000 to pay for the same.

☞ In the case of Michael Butler, tried at Greenfield for killing Frederick Rempp, the jury returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to five years in the Greenfield House of Correction.

☞ Mary Ann Endy, the Leyden pauper, has been sentenced to five years in the House of Correction for burning Joseph B. Martin's buildings, and two years for burning the Thorn barn.

☞ The Bellevue Colliery, near Scranton, one of the most valuable of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company's mines, has caved in, without loss of life. Two hundred men are out of employment.

☞ S. S. Perechin, United States Deputy Surveyor at Umatilla, reports that the Indians of that region are being murdered by whites. Every Indian found beyond the limits of his reservation is killed. A few days ago two Indians were found near Lagrange swinging from a tree. These reports have caused much excitement.

☞ Thursday night, 21st, just at dusk, Alfred Cutting's new house and barn in Croydon, N. H., were completely consumed by fire. Loss $4000. Insured. Four years ago Mr. Cutting's former house and buildings were burnt on the same site. As Mr. Cutting's boys were milking under the shed next the barn, they heard some one open the roll door of the barn, and in a few moments they discovered the hay mow enveloped in flames. No clue to the perpetrators has yet been found.

☞ Diptheria prevails in the Mohawk, (N. Y.) Valley to an alarming extent, and whole families are prostrated and dying.

☞ There is a report that the new Commissioner of Patents has declined to grant a patent to Edison for his last electric discovery.

☞ The constant rain for a week in Vermont, has raised the streams, and if it continues fears are entertained of serions damage from inundations.

☞ The diptheria has again broken out in West Waterville, Me., where it raged with such terrible results last winter, and several persons are now sick with the disease there.

☞ Prices for butter at St. Albans on Tuesday, 19th: Common to good, 12 to 17 cents; choice, 18 to 20 cents; selections, 22 to 23 cents, with a higher price paid for extra lots of October make.

☞ Information has been received at Hampton, N. H., of the death on the 14th ult. of Chas. Batchelder, a native of that town, who was shot by the Indians while driving a mail coach over the table lands of New Mexico. The remains were interred at Silver City.

☞ Crime has increased rapidly in Germany during the last eight years. The convictions in Prussia alone have risen from 6403 in 1871 to 12,807 in 1878. This melancholy state of things is attributed to the war with France.

☞ It is reported that a Wall street clique, including Keene and others, have formed a pool to make a corner in wheat, and Rufus Hatch is reported as having already bought 2,000,000 bushels as a first instalment, to be held till spring.

☞ The "Genius of Connecticut," the crowning figure of the new capitol at Hartford, is the statue of a female with spreading wings. Its weight is three tons and it rests upon a marble pyramid, and is firmly fastened down with powerful rods.

☞ Sidney Hayes of Greenwood, Me., came near being killed by a cross bull last week. He was thrown into the air several times, and doubtless would have been killed but for his dog, a large and powerful animal, which came to his relief.

☞ The raiding party operating in Calhoun and Cleborne counties, Ala., under charge of Deputy Collector Strouse, had seized, up to the 19th instant, 7 still houses, 5 copper stills, 8000 gallons of beer and mash and 30 gallons of whiskey, and made several arrests.

☞ A French boy, aged 11 years, while stealing a ride on a freight train Wednesday night, 20th, near the depot at Manchester, N. H., was struck by the switch and thrown under the cars. One of his legs was nearly severed from the body, and he died from his injuries during the night.

☞ At Raynham a few days ago, while two sons of John M. Manning were loading a cart, the oldest, 12 years old, accidentally struck his brother full in the face with a fork, a tine of the fork sticking so hard in the skull as to be removed with difficulty. The lad is in a critical condition.

☞ The rope factory of Henry Wall & Co., in Hingham, and a storehouse were destroyed by fire Nov. 19. The factory was 345 feet long, 17½ wide and one story high. The loss on buildings and machinery is estimated at about $2000, and on the stock about $1000; insured for $2000.

☞ The Cincinnati *Commercial* thinks that the fees for sending money orders through the Post Office are too large and thinks that three cents are enough. A perfected postal order system would reduce the demand for small denominations of paper money and would generally prove a great public convenience.

☞ Frank, son of Marshall Pierce, of Putney, Vt., shot himself, probably fatally, through the head Saturday evening at his father's house during a fit of temporary insanity. He was formerly clerk at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, and had been employed by many leading hotels in the country.

☞ Steamer John Bramhall, ashore at Little Gull Island, has broken in twain abaft the engines, and the main and mizzen masts have gone by the board. The stern is completely under water. Two thousand cases of shot and shell and two

Poetry.

From Harper's Magazine for February.

URANIA.

BY FRANCES L. MACE.

From what superior star,
Gazing, entranced, afar,
Didst thou first look on earth when earth was young?
Toon whom the singers of all days have sung,
Spirit of song! by many names adored,
Whose deep, sweet speech, the music of the soul,
Our human utterance can not yet control,

When first thy sun-shod feet
Pressed the new verdure, sweet
With timid violet, and virgin rose;
When first thy rainbow plumage passing by,
The shepherd bards discerned, ah! rapturously
They sought thy inspiration to disclose,
With burning heart and glances raised above,
Speech overflowed in song, and all their throne was love.

Nor didst thou linger long
In vales of pastoral song;
Judea's heart thy fervid fingers strung.
The groves of palm, the sacred rivers, heard,
The cedars upon Lebanon were stirred,
When David's lips immortal measures sung.
And smoke of costliest odors rose to heaven
With chorus and response by Hebrew voices given.

On Orpheus' glowing lyre
Was laid thy touch of fire;
By thine own lips on Sappho's brow was pressed
The mystic kiss which woke her soul's unrest.
Unveiled by thee, in thy most radiant mood,
The palaces that on Olympus stood.
From whose charmed portals came, at the decree,
The gods of earth and heaven, the nymphs of air and sea.

Then was the age of gold,
When bards heroic told
Heroic legends of primeval days.
Then had the singer his full meed of praise,
For thou didst touch the laurel with thy wand,
And prince and warrior with exultant hand
Wove the bright bays around the minstrel's name.
Their valor was his theme; his song their surest fame.

Yet not by these was seen
The splendor of thy mien,
The full, unclouded glory of thy face.
These caught but glimpses of the light divine,
And counting thee among the "sacred nine,"
Groped in the darkness for thy dwelling place.
Milton alone o'er elder bards prevailed;
Upon the starry heights he saw thy brow unveiled.

Dearer through ages grown,
Thou wilt not leave alone
The world thy presence has made half divine;
Still countless votaries bow before thy shrine
The Norseman's ringing ballad, the soft chime
Of Spanish lute to river sandaled rhyme,
The hymn of freedom by the sunset sea,
Or Persia's passion lays, all sacred are to thee.

Some are content to reach
The still, inaudible speech
Of winds and woods and waters' rhythmic flow.
These know thee best in nature's whispers low,
And with the hem of thy rich garment pressed
To tuneful lips, they are supremely blest.
Others have caught a more transcendent gleam,
And greet thee on the heights of prophecy and dream.

Stay, thou resplendent one!
Not yet thy task is done,
Not yet the perfect song of ages sung!
A rose unblown, it sleeps upon thy breast,
Waiting to make some later Eden blest.
Still be the halo of thy beauty flung
Over dark days, dark years, until afar
Above the New Song's birth thou smilest like a star!

A Selected Story.

From Appleton's Journal.

MRS. MACGREGOR.

Augustus and I had literary labor to perform. It was not a work of magnitude, but it was one of difficulty and delicacy. The modern American housekeeper is driven to divers expedients; and the cautiously-worded advertisement which shall attract desirable applicants, repel incapables, and convince every one that the advertiser is not a person to be trifled with, is a favorite one with callow inexperience.

Augustus and I were composing an advertisement on a certain chilly October evening, when the cozy sitting-room, with its drawn curtains and dancing firelight, would have been charming, if we had not had the uneasy consciousness of blank desolation in the kitchen below. The cook had departed twenty-four hours previously, with a graceful indifference to any household complications that might ensue from the suddeness of her arrangements. The house-maid, who condescended to do occasional duty as a child's nurse, also, had served us up a black beefsteak and some half-raw potatoes by way of dinner, but intimated that it was not what she hired for, to be a kitchen-girl, and not what she expected to do much longer. I had made the beds, and dusted the rooms, and answered the door-bell, and washed the dishes, and taken the entire care of baby meanwhile; and I began to feel that it was not what *I* had bargained for, either.

We did not regret the cook, particularly. In fact, Augustus, when I told him she had forsaken us, declared promptly that he was glad of it.

"Now we'll advertise for one of the right sort," he said. "Instead of being bullied at intelligence offices, we'll have them come to us, and take our pick of the candidates."

So we put our heads together over the advertisement which was to capture "one of the right sort," but did not make a success of it at first. We wasted a good many sheets of commercial-note in the effort to be explicit without being diffuse; and Augustus—after calling my production rambling and wordy—lost his temper because I said that his was incomplete and repellent.

"No Irish person who understood her own importance—and most of them do you know, dear—would look twice at such an advertisement as this: '*Wanted—an able-bodied, experienced woman as cook and laundress; wages twelve dollars; no followers allowed.*' It will simply be a waste of money to insert it, Augustus," I remarked, calmly.

"Confound the thing! Write it better yourself, then!" was my husband's reply.

"No, Augustus. I have come to the conclusion that division of labor is fair-play. I shall have to see the applicants and run the gauntlet of their interrogatories."

"More fool you!" he interrupted, with the suavity that men occasionally display—after marriage. "Catch *me* being catechised by any of those red-armed wenches! But that's the way with you women; if you would assert yourselves with any sort of dignity—"

"We should never have a servant to cook your dinners," I interpolated, dexterously. "In the present state of American society—"

"Oh, bother American society! Stop your chatter, and let's get this thing out of the way sometime to-night."

I was mute, and Augustus scratched the paper furiously for a few minutes. It did occur to me ("while I was musing, the fire burned") that his choice of epithets, even as applied to the exponents of domestic service, might be more refined, and his manner to the wife of his bosom less brusque. But I forbore comment, or deferred it, rather, to a more convenient occasion, and amiably approved of the last effort of his intellect, thrust presently under my nose with a gruff—

"There, madam! Will that suit you?"

It was not perfect, but I smiled at him sweetly.

"It is very nice, indeed, dear—just right. Now you had better take it to the office immediately, so as to make sure of its being in the *Argus* to-morrow."

"Humph! Have you any other little odd jobs this evening?" (with a sardonic air.)

"I believe not. Unless" (carelessly) "you like to stop at the post-office on your way back for a registered letter."

"For what?" Augustus changed his tone, and began to look amiable. "How do you know there is a registered letter?"

"The carrier told me this morning."

"Ah! well, I suppose I had better hurry off before the office closes. A registered letter, eh? I wonder what's in it?"

Augustus got his overcoat with a pleasing alacrity. His little irritation had quite vanished.

"Anything you would like from downtown?—oysters, caramels—?" as he paused on the threshold.

"If your letter has a ten-pound note in it from Mrs. MacGregor," I answered, laughing, "you may bring me some broiled oysters. My dinner was not a joy forever."

"Nor mine," said Augustus. "But Mrs. MacGregor? Don't alarm yourself, madam!"

And then we both laughed, for a ten-pound note, or a shilling, from Mrs. MacGregor would have been an unprecedented thing. She was a "canny Scot," kin to my husband in some roundabout way that was never quite clear to me; and showing her kinship only by a solemn letter of good advice once or twice a year. Augustus called her letters "memento-mories;" and I am ashamed to say that we used, generally, to laugh over them, though there was nothing inherently amusing in their composition.

I had never seen her. Augustus had, having been at school in Edinburgh, and on several occasions had spent his holidays at the quaint old house at St. Andrews, where she lived. She was a youngish woman then, and unmarried. It was not till after Augustus left the high-school and came across the water, that she became Mrs. MacGregor. It was many years now since they had met, but she still kept up her interest in the schoolboy that she had been tond of, and we had a certain rather shadowy but familiar idea of Mrs. MacGregor as a tall and lean person in a frilled cap, and black-silk gown of strait and scanty folds, with lace mitts on her venerable knuckles. She had never sent us her photograph, but our mental portrait of her harmonized with the pious and formal letters, and we did not doubt its correctness.

I gave no second thought to the old lady after Augustus went out. That the registered letter was from her never once occurred to me as a possibility, for we had the idea she was "near," as the Scotch say, like the generality of her country-folk, and also that she had no large amount of world's gear to give away. Certainly she had given *us* none so far; and, by way of a surprise, nothing could have been more effectual than the discovery, not only that the letter *was* from her, but that it inclosed, instead of ten pounds, a fifty-pound note of the Bank of England. Augustus announced the fact to me on his return with a dazed air. It had had such a stupefying effect upon him that he forgot the oysters—which was rather disappointing. But I comforted myself with the reflection that fifty pounds—that is to say, two hundred and fifty dollars—would purchase many more satisfactory things than a box of broiled oysters. I was not quite so hungry as Æsop's barn-yard fowl, and willingly resigned the barley-corn for the jewel.

Besides the remarkable inclosure, the letter conveyed remarkable intelligence. Mrs. MacGregor was a widow—had buried her husband six months previously—and having no children, and no near relatives in Scotland, had concluded to seek out her distant kinfolk in America. She would like to make us a visit, if we were so minded, and, not wishing to be a charge upon us, had sent this little token of her good-will in advance.

"Observe, madam," said Augustus, waving his crisp bank-note ostentatiously, "that this is a *small* token of Mrs. MacGregor's good-will. Picture to yourself the resources from which such tokens are drawn, the apparent paucity of relatives, and the certainty that in course of nature somebody will have to inherit—"

"Augustus, I am shocked at you! Such mercenary calculations!"

"Why should you be, madam? Let us be sensible," returned Augustus, coolly. "It is not exactly the goose that lays the golden egg—I would not insinuate for any consideration that Mrs. MacGregor is a goose—but still it must be patent to the dullest comprehension that here is the germ of a golden opportunity. I trust I shall not have to suggest that your duty as a wife and mother—"

I informed Augustus at this point that as a wife and mother I needed no suggestions whatever; but that, as a housekeeper and mistress of a family, I begged to suggest myself that it was not a time to entertain strangers when there was no one in the house that could cook a decent meal. He did not retort, as commonplace men do, that every mistress of a family should be able in an emergency to cook a decent meal with her own hands. On the contrary, he informed me that Mrs. MacGregor did not propose to come for a month or six weeks yet; so there would be ample time to get over the household crisis.

"That advertisement will bring you any number of girls before to-morrow night. You'll only have to take your choice of them," he said, encouragingly. So we retired to rest and blissful dreams.

Within the next twenty-four hours Augustus's prediction was fulfilled. "Any number of girls" certainly presented themselves; and every quality but "the right sort." Out of twenty-nine females to whom I gave patient audience, there were three only whose appearance and written testimonials invited even a moment's degree of confidence. Of these, two declined the situation scornfully, when the insignificant sum of twelve dollars was mentioned as compensation. Nothing under eighteen would be listened to: starvation first! Consequently, as Augustus said, I had only to take my pick—ot one.

I engaged her, at an advance of two dollars, on the strength of Mrs. MacGregor's gift. In a week I was thankful to present her with tour dollars and let her depart, she having destroyed property meanwhile that more than represented her month's wages. Two silver spoons thrown away in the swill-tub, the cover of a costly tureen broken, my favorite teapot cracked, and a cut-glass pitcher split with boiling water, were among the items.

We advertised again, and for the next four weeks life was spiced with sufficient variety. Augustus took to getting his dinners downtown, and came home late, smelling of champagne. Mrs. MacGregor's gift made him recklessly extravagant. Being a woman, I took to tears instead of drink, and the baby took to colic as a natural consequence. Our home was not the abode of cheerfulness, nor the shrine of peace, in those days; disorder reigned; dirt and discomfort pervaded the very atmosphere; the whole household was demoralized.

Misery reached the climax one day when Mary Jane flounced into the room with her bonnet and shawl on, and demanded her month's wages. She couldn't stand such goings-on no longer; there was the new cook dead-drunk on the kitchen-floor, and the fire out in the range, and the breakfast-dishes not washed when she went down to set the table for lunch! It was no place for a respectable girl, and she wasn't going to be imposed upon by the likes of me. Give her her money, and let her lave!

I gave her her money, despairingly. She left without loss of time. And I took baby, who had waked up screaming at Mary Jane's noisy entrance, into my arms, and sat down upon the floor with him; where I am not ashamed to say we howled together.

* * * * * * *

It might have been an hour later, or longer—I did not keep account of time in this abject state of mind—when the door-bell rang loudly. The baby had cried himself into exhaustion, and was asleep again. I had dropped myself—a limp bundle of hopelessness—upon the lounge; but I sprang to my feet, galvanized by terror into activity.

"It is Mrs. MacGregor!" was the wild thought that set every nerve quivering. "This is about the time she was to come, and she hasn't thought it worth while to write again. What *shall* I do?"

The bell rang again. It must be answered at any rate, and there was no one but myself to do it. I hurried down stairs trembling in every limb, and opened the street-door in a nervous apprehension that literally paralyzed utterance for the moment. That Mrs. MacGregor would front me on the threshold I hardly had a doubt; and if the familiar image of my fancy, the strait-skirted, tall, lean, angular Scotchwoman, had actually appeared, I think I should have fainted, or had a fit of hysterics from sheer excitement.

To my infinite relief, however, the person that appeared was wholly unlike the Mrs. MacGregor of my dreams. It was a woman of short stature and rather full figure, simply clad in a neat black dress and shawl, with a close-fitting black bonnet, out of which a plump, comely, middle-aged face smiled at me.

"Is it Mrs. Donaldson I'm speaking to?" she asked, in a cheery, wholesome sort of voice that matched the face and figure. "I've just been hearing that she's in want of a servant?"

"Yes," I gasped, breathlessly. "Won't you come in?"

She assented, and I led the way to the parlor, half dazed with the double sense of relief. It was *not* Mrs. MacGregor, and it was somebody who—blessed chance!—might deliver me from the slough of despond in which Mary Jane had left me!

"I want a servant very much indeed," I began, eagerly, offering her a seat. "If you know of anybody that you can recommend, I shall be very much obliged."

"Well, ma'am, if you've no objection, I'd like to recommend myself for the place," she replied, smiling. "I can bring you a good character from the lady I lived with last" (handing me a folded paper which she took from a clean white envelop.)

I extended my hand for it in dumb amazement. Was this well-dressed, well-mannered, pleasant-voiced person really seeking a servant's place, and had *I* the chance of securing her? My heart leaped up with a bound. "If I have to pay her twenty dollars a month, I'll have her," I said to myself with an irrepressible conviction that the day of deliverance had dawned.

The reference was more than satisfactory. Margaret Campbell, the writer said, had lived with her for a number of years, and borne a good character for honesty and industry. She was not afraid of work, and would do well whatever she attempted; an excellent cook, &c. &c., and a person to rely upon in any emergency.

It did not take me long to conclude arrangements with Margaret Campbell. Her catechising of me was brief and modest. What work did I expect of her? What wages would I allow? Could she have the privilege of going regularly to church? With my replies she professed herself fully satisfied; and, in the matter of wages, would be content with the twelve dollars I had been accustomed to pay. Moreover, she could enter upon her duties without any delay; would only go away to fetch her working-clothes, and be back in an hour.

I closed the door upon her without fear. She would keep her word, and come back, I was perfectly sure. The day of deliverance had dawned. Meanwhile, I rose to the occasion, or descended to it rather, and went down into the kitchen to rout the party in possession. There an agreeable surprise awaited me. The new cook, described by Mary Jane as "dead-drunk on the floor" at noon, was nowhere visible, though I searched basement and cellar for the *corpus delicti*. She had executed a flank-movement, and retreated to parts unknown: for which considerate conduct I freely forgave her all the past. The hour that elapsed before Margaret's return I spent in energetic imitation of one of the labors of Hercules. I washed the dirty crockery that littered the dresser; I swept the filthy floor, and threw out the indescribable accumulations that defiled closets and pantries. There were sinks of iniquity that I did not venture to meddle with, but I secured a little surface decency for a first appearance, at all events, and trusted to Margaret, with blind but not mistaken confidence, for the thorough purging hereafter.

She came back, as I knew she would, within the hour, her tidy print dress and white apron the picture of neatness; her cheerful, sensible face an embodied promise of future comfort. And I must say that never was a promise better fulfilled. Within a week the house began to assume an ideal aspect. The kitchen shone with cleanliness, and its various properties, instead of being huddled into inaccessible corners, to be rummaged for at need, were disposed upon the walls, and on various shelves, in a manner that was positively ornamental, as well as openly convenient. Over her sink (no longer a sink of iniquity) the spoons, and skimmers, and egg-beaters were hung up with an eye to artistic effect; and at every turn a shining tin cover, or a polished pan, or a bit of clean delft, caught your eye with its brightness. The gleaming black range, the dazzling copper boiler, the transparent windows, the well-scoured floor-cloth, were actually things of beauty. And when Margaret, with my consent, brought down an old rocking-chair from the attic, and mended its broken arm, and covered its general shabbiness with some pretty, old-fashioned flowered chintz that she produced from her trunk—it had once been a gown, she said—I could not help thinking the kitchen a picture of comfort and pleasantness.

Her comely, cheerful face made sunshine in it always. It never met me without a smile, and the tones of her mellow, comfortable voice were a cordial to my ears. It may seem absurd, but it is none the less true, that I began to grow fond of my cook; not merely for the blessed relief she had brought me, but for numberless good and pleasant qualities that attracted me unconsciously, making me forget that any difference of station existed. She had a colloquial capacity which entertained me; her shrewd remarks and apt anecdotes had a charm of their own, and her speech, though not without a certain quaint accent, had no tinge of vulgarity. I found her society not only agreeable but improving; and, owing to a suggestion of hers, made shortly after her installment, I had more of it than usual in our relative positions.

Mary Jane's successor in the upper regions of the household had been merely a second edition of Mary Jane—a creature to be endured, not to take delight in. At the end of her first week Margaret called my attention to the little dust-heaps in the corners of the staircase, to the streaks on the window-panes, to the cobwebs on the ceilings, to the absence of polish on the glass and silver, and to the damp and demoralized condition of the dish-towels. "Did I think," she asked, with honest indignation, "that a girl ought to get high wages for such slop-work as that?"

"No, I did not think so, but what could I do?" I answered, helplessly, dreading with true American cowardice another change involving encounter with a fresh specimen of the race.

"Make her do her work properly, or send her away. And I'm thinking that's the wisest thing to do, after all," said Margaret, promptly. "She's the kind of servant that's not likely to improve."

"And then I shall get another who will be worse, perhaps. You don't know what Irish girls are, Margaret; you say yourself you have never lived among them. By-and-by you will find out they are all alike, and we might as well put up with one as another. It is no use to keep changing."

Margaret smiled.

"It is putting up with things—if you'll allow me to say so, ma'am—that makes servants so worthless. If the ladies would insist on having their work done right in the beginning, and see to it themselves, there would be a great difference. I'm no for wanting the mistress to be always nagging, either; but she ought to know how to rule her own household."

It occurred to me that this was unusual doctrine from a person who was herself a servant; but there was no denying its soundness, in spite of the personal reflection. I answered her frankly:

"You are quite right, Margaret; but it very often happens that the mistress really does not know how the work should be done. She sees when things are wrong, but she does not know how to set them right."

"I'm thinking, ma'am, that a lady's house is her opportunity of learning," was the significant reply.

"So it is. But suppose she comes into it young and inexperienced, as I did," I said, feeling curiously anxious to excuse myself to Margaret for the "slack" housekeeping that I could not disguise from her; "and suppose she has had no mother or friend to advise her, and has a baby presently to take up her time and thoughts—"

"Why, then, the servants will be likely to have it all their own way—that's quite clear," said my cook, gravely. "And it's a great pity, too, for servants are not to be trusted."

"I know one that is," I returned involuntarily; "and I shall trust her, and take her advice. You think I had better dismiss Kate Kelly; well, then, she shall go to-morrow, and you shall choose the next girl yourself. I leave it all to you, Margaret."

It was not discreet to put such confidence in a servant and a stranger, I admit. But I trusted her instinctively from the first with a certain inward assurance of her worthiness that never failed me. One has intuitions sometimes that it is safe to follow blindly, and I never had cause to regret doing so in this instance.

Margaret's reply to me was a suggestion that, instead of having a new girl, we should send the weekly wash to a laundry, and manage the general housework ourselves. I demurred at first, on the baby's account; neither Mary Jane nor Kate Kelly had been of much assistance in the nursery, it is true, but still they condescended to take him out occasionally, and take care of him when I had a visitor, or went out myself.

"I don't really see how we can manage without *somebody* to help with baby," I said, doubtfully.

But Margaret smiled with quiet confidence in herself.

"Leave the baby to me. I'll have plenty of time to tend him better than Kate Kelly has ever done, I promise you."

And she kept her promise to an extent that amazed me. Not so much as regarded the baby, for she was one of those women who are motherly by nature, to whom a baby is a delight of itself. It was plain to see that everything she did for him was a pleasure to her; but how she contrived to keep him in her arms half the time, and yet do almost the whole work of the household, was the mystery.

It is true that I helped her, to my limited capacity. Her example was contagious, and I was wise enough to see that this was my opportunity to gain the knowledge I had so wofully lacked before. Under her kindly teaching culinary mysteries that in the old *regime* were things to shudder at and fly from became clear, and even charming. I came also to a more accurate estimate of quantities than I had ever possessed, and discovered, through Margaret's conscientious adjustment of demand and supply, what shameless discrepancies had existed before.

Augustus, at the end of her first month, took me to task for extravagance. He had partaken freely of an excellent dinner, and now, with the dining-table reduced to a circle and draped in crimson; with the drop-light and the evening papers placed ready to his hand; with a clear fire and a shining hearth glowing in front of him, and his easy-chair and slippered feet conveniently near the fender—he was enjoying a cigar.

"I do not wish to find fault, madam," he began, tentatively.

"Why do violence to your inclinations, then, dear?" I responded, suavely.

"I merely wish to ask," taking his cigar delicately from his lips, and flicking off the long, white ash at its end, "if it does not occur to you that we are living at rather a fast rate nowadays?"

"Yes, dear; Havana cigars are expensive, and I believe they have gone up lately. I read something about the combination of the dealers, or the manufacturers—what was it?" I asked, innocently.

"Never mind that, madam," blowing a faint blue spiral across the table to me. "We are not discussing Havana cigars, which is a matter quite out of your province, but the ordering of dinner, which is, or ought to be, within it."

"Was anything amiss with the dinner? I thought you seemed to enjoy it."

"Nothing whatever, except its probable cost. I should be glad to eat such dinners every day if I could do it with a clear conscience. But when I reflect upon the butcher's bill, and the grocer's—"

"Would you like to look at the bills, Augustus? They were sent in this morning, Flock's, and McAvoy's, too. And here are the pass-books made up to date."

I took them out of my work-basket, where they had lain under a fluff of pink-and-white zephyr that was taking shape as a sack for baby, and handed them to him—two little leather books, with a long, narrow blue slip inclosed in each. The month before, and the month before that, and all the months of our housekeeping, in short, I had looked at the sum-total marked on those blue slips with a vague sense of discomfort and self-reproach. That we had never received value for such amounts, I was inly conscious; and, in presenting them to my husband for payment, I had in some sort the feeling of being accessory to a fraud.

To-night my sensations were different. I watched with outward serenity but inward amusement the various emotions that flitted over Augustus's features as he examined the documents. The bills were unfolded first with the severely-resigned air that is so agreeable to contemplate; this was succeeded quickly by a look of incredulous surprise; then came a rapid comparison with the books; and finally Augustus slapped them all down upon the table with an energy that sent a little shower of white ashes flying over the red cloth.

"There is some mistake here, madam. These bills are not made out for the whole month. I have always told you—"

"To have them rendered from the 15th to the 15th, inclusive; yes, I know, dear, and, if you will look at the dates, you will see it is all right. Your dinner to-night is included in those amounts.

"Well, I can't understand it, by George!"

Augustus took up the papers again with a frowning brow, but he searched them in vain for any fatal flaw. They were strictly correct as to time and result, and the frown subsided into a rather sheepish smile. I shook out the tangles of my pink-and-white wool, and crocheted three shells on the border of baby's sack before I triumphed. Then I did it mildly.

"I am waiting for your complaint, dear. You did not wish to find fault, you said."

"And I have no occasion to." Augustus rose gallantly, and made me a profound bow. "Accept my apologies, madam, and the assurance of my entire satisfaction with the existing state of things. While I have dinners that would not discredit Delmonico, and monthly bills thirty per cent. less than formerly, believe me I have no fault to find. If you would kindly condescend to explain to me how you manage it," he added, relapsing into his easy chair and his familiar manner, "I'd be obliged to you, my dear. At present it's a Chinese puzzle."

"The explanation lies in a word—*Margaret*," was my honest answer. "I have not managed anything. She is the administrative power and the executive in this house, Augustus. She does the marketing, and sees things weighed and measured; she does the cooking, and lets nothing be spoiled or wasted—"

"And she nurses the baby," interrupted Augustus. "I saw her cuddling the little rascal to-night as if she liked it. And she keeps the house like a new pin from garret to cellar; and for all I know she darns my socks and sews on my buttons between whiles. By George! the woman's a witch. She isn't canny."

"Yes, she is, Augustus. She is a canny Scot like Mrs. MacGregor. And, by-the-way," I added, laughing at the dread with which I had anticipated that arrival a while ago, "where is Mrs. MacGregor, and when is she coming? Our housekeeping is in that state of perfection now that I am anxious for a distinguished guest."

"That reminds me," beginning to rummage his pockets, "I had a letter from the old lady to-day."

"Registered?"

"No, you mercenary creature; there was no inclosure. It was only to say that we were not to expect her at present; she was detained by a matter of business, and would not make her appearance till after Christmas."

"Well, dear, we are very comfortable without her," I replied, with happy indifference. And Augustus rejoined promptly:

"No doubt of that. In fact, we are more comfortable, probably, than we shall be with her. But the ultimate considerations, madam, the golden possibilities—"

"Oh, yes! let us take care of the golden possibilities by all means," I laughed. "We'll welcome Mrs. MacGregor when she comes, Augustus, never fear; and perhaps she'll be an agreeable surprise as well as an ultimate consideration."

* * * * *

When I went up to the nursery, where Margaret sat in the warm firelight with baby in her arms, I repeated to her some part of our conversation. She laughed, the low, mellow laugh that was peculiar to her and very pleasant to hear, when I told her that Augustus said she was not canny.

"That is like the old country; one doesn't hear such words here," she said. "And is he so used to having his substance wasted, poor man, that he thinks an honest servant must be a witch? Aweel! it was high time I came to look after the pair of ye."

"Indeed, it was, Margaret; and, since you came, I shall never let you go. You will have to stay, and keep on looking after the pair of us always."

She looked pleased.

"I wonder will you say that by-and-by?" she asked.

"Why not? I shall always say it, unless you give me reason to change my good opinion of you. And I don't expect you to do that."

"But I might," she said, smiling. "There is no being certain about people in this world, and you've only known me for a month. How can you tell that I'll not do some awful thing, and make you repent for putting your trust in me?"

"I'll take the chances, Margaret."

"Will you do that?" she asked, with an eager, upward glance at me. "Do you think so well of me that you're not afraid for anything?"

"Just so well, and better, too," I answered, unhesitatingly. "I am not only not afraid for anything, but I am sure of everything where you are concerned, Margaret. It is not in you to be anything else but good and true—I felt that from the first, and I never shall feel differently, I know."

She laughed softly, and her eyes sparkled in the dancing firelight.

"It's no wise, maybe, for you to say, but it's pleasant for me to hear," she said. "It shows the warm heart, but"—with a prudent shake of her head—"it's no wise to talk so to servants. Nine out of ten would take advantage of it."

"Nine out of ten would never have the opportunity. You are not like a servant to me, Margaret."

"Eh? What like am I, then?" she asked, quickly, with a startled look.

"Like a friend—like some one who belongs to me; and I wish you really did," I answered, out of the fulness of my heart, and without remembering or caring for the social distance between us. There was nothing in her face nor manner to resent it at any time; and as I looked at her now with my baby in her arms, and her comely, kindly face bright with intelligence and sympathetic feeling, I truly wished, as I said, that she belonged to me, so that I might never miss the comfortable presence at my fireside.

"Do you mean all you are saying?" she asked, gravely, her eyes searching mine with an earnest questioning.

I met the gaze frankly.

"Yes, I do, Margaret. Why shouldn't I tell you honestly—if you do happen to be my servant—what I think of you? It might not answer for some, but it will not spoil you!"

"Aweel! aweel!" she returned, thoughtfully; "we follow blind paths, and, whiles, they lead us to the light. I shall tell you, Mrs. Donaldson, that I was sore in doubt when I first came to your door My mind misgave me that it was a foolish thing I was set to do, and would end, maybe, in no good. But now I see my way clear."

"Why were you in doubt when you came?" I asked, curiously. "And how did you happen to come, Margaret? You have never told me that."

"Didn't you advertise for a servant?" she asked, laughing.

"Yes; but you did not apply at first."

"So I didn't; but I was living not far away, and I heard through an Irish girl in the house what trouble you were having. Then I asked myself was it the fault of the girl, or the mistress, or whose, that you could not be suited; and I took it upon me to try for the place and satisfy my mind. It was a risk, you see, for how could I tell what manner of woman you might be? And, to come to you, I gave up a home that was well enough in its way."

"I wonder they let you go?" I exclaimed, involuntarily.

"There was none to say me nay," she answered, gravely. "I was living my lane when I came to you. And there's no reason why—since you're wishing I belonged to you—that I shouldn't live with you till the end of my days."

"Then it's a bargain!" I cried, gayly. "You promise never to leave me—"

"Till you tell me to go," she interrupted. "And you're free to do that whenever you think fit, remember. I'll not hold you bound to a bargain that may be to your interest to break some day."

"Very good. When I tell you to go, Margaret, it will be for reasons that are never likely to exist, so we need not anticipate them. The compact is made—shake hands upon it."

She held out her hand promptly—a large, shapely, well-kept hand, with the neatest of finger nails, and with a soft, warm palm that met mine in hearty clasp. I had never shaken hands with her before, and the grasp of her firm fingers was a fresh inspiration. I felt in it an assurance of good not easily to be obtained, nor lightly to be parted with.

* * * * *

Within a short time this was an assurance fully realized. I was taken ill, suddenly and violently. After a season of bitterly cold and stormy weather came a "January thaw;" and tempted by the sunshine, I took too long a walk one day, got my boots wet through and through with melting snow, and in less than twenty-four hours found myself in the clutch of rheumatic fever; so comprehending, experimentally, what the rack and screw of the Inquisition might have meant. To complicate things, in the height of my illness baby was attacked with diphtheria; and Augustus, who had been abjectly miserable at the sight of my sufferings, advanced rapidly to a state of lunacy when the little precious life that so rounded our own was threatened.

The child was so very ill from the first that there were grave fears about him. And I, lying on my bed of torture, unable to stir hand or foot without unspeakable agony, could do nothing for him—might not even see him! I do not know how I could have borne the wretched anxiety without Margaret; but she rose to the situation with the same tact and skill that had untangled the household snarl. She was two or three women in one, and contrived to be—in a moral sense, at least—in two or three places at one time. The whole care of baby, night and day, she took upon herself, and gave me, besides, the most efficient nursing that I had. The "professional," sent by the doctor, was a hard-featured, unsympathetic machine, who administered pills and draughts with clock-work fidelity, but handled me with such a machine like grip that I screamed whenever she touched me.

So Margaret, who had established herself in the nursery adjoining, came to the rescue, and lifted and turned me at my need, with strong arms and tender yet firm hands, that found instinctively the right place, and seemed to have magnetic healing in their very touch. I found nothing so soothing to my tortured nerves as the movements of those pliant hands: they bathed my feverish forehead, they rubbed my aching limbs, they settled my pillows just where I wanted them—all without a single teasing question, and with a deft precision that made everything done by another seem bungling and futile in comparison.

When she ate, or slept, or rested herself, or how she kept up the strength and the cheery bright spirit which sustained us all, God knows! She managed it somehow, and the household wheels ran smoothly, too. She found a girl to take her place in the kitchen, and Augustus had his breakfasts and dinners comfortably served. She raised his spirits and redeemed him from utter imbecility by inventing errands for him, and making him fancy himself useful. He fairly hung upon her looks and words, and took courage from her courage in the wretchedest days. "There never was such a woman!" he affirmed to me afterward, with his favorite expletive. "The doctors drove me wild with their long faces, but she put new life into me. She was a soothing syrup, she was a strengthening plaster, she was an embodied balm of Gilead! By George, I believe I should have done something terribly idiotic if she had not been here to keep me straight!"

"You did plenty of idiotic things as it was," I answered him, consolingly. "It's a mercy Margaret *was* here, if you had it in you to do anything worse."

There was one time—only one—when she broke down. This was after a day and night of awful suspense, when baby's little life seemed to float on a breath, and there was no telling which way it would be blown. They kept the knowledge of his condition from me; Margaret passed in and out as usual, and met my anxious eyes always with a smile of hope and cheer, and a reassuring word that must have cost her I know not what effort. She loved the child as if he had been her own, and she thought he was dying; but she would not spoil the chance of a restful night for me by letting me suspect his danger.

So, while I slept—and that night I did sleep in painless rest, the first I had known for many days and nights—she watched the little, flickering flame of life in the next room; and, by her prayers, and her yearning love, and her ceaseless, tender ministry, she kept it. I have never had a doubt, from going out entirely. When she came to me some time in the morning, to turn my pillows and make me comfortable, as no one else could, I was struck with the wan look in her face.

"Margaret! the baby is my baby? Is he worse?" I cried, my first selfish thought being for him, not for her.

"No, he is better—the precious lamb!"

Her voice broke into a sob as she answered me; she tried to control herself, but failed utterly; and amazed and terrified me by dropping on her knees by the bed, and bursting into hysterical crying. I was sure, for the moment, that the baby was dead, or dying, and began to cry convulsively myself; whereupon Margaret made haste to dry her tears, and reassure me. "It was just a bit nervousness," she declared, "and she was sore ashamed for frightening me so. How could she forget herself like that? The baby, the wee bit precious bairnie, was no like to die, God bless him! I should see him for my ain self before long, with his bonnie wee face blooming like a rose."

It was not till a good while afterward that I learned how narrowly I had escaped the bitter bereavement, and how largely I owed it to her that the little rosebud face ever bloomed again for me. We both, however, took a start for recovery from that time; and in something less than a week I was well enough to send the "professional" about her business, and to sit up in an easy chair before the fire, while baby lay in his cradle within reach of my hand, and Margaret sat opposite, watching us both with motherly satisfaction.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

Ladies' Portfolio.

From Harper's Magazine for December.

AFTER DARK.

BY WILL WALLACE HARNEY.

When Twilight gathers in her sheaves,
And wheeling swallows skim the flume,
The ploughman, turning homeward, leaves
His plough mid-furrow in the broom,
And through the melancholy eves
The orange drops its milk-white bloom.

The old delights that go and come
Through sorrow, in the fading dew,
Like waves that wore a wreath of foam
The darker that the waters grew,
Flow round my solitary home
At evening, when the stars are few.

So, sad and sweet as bridal tears
For broken homes, to see withdraw
The child we love, have gone the years
We counted long, and saw
Descend on all the frozen meres
The sunlight breaking through the thaw.

Like one who in the driving snow,
When all the untrodden paths are dim,
Hears far-off voices, faint now, now
Across the woodland calling him,
I hear the loved of long ago
Singing among the seraphim.

And as the soft, dissembling light
Falls, shadowing into dusky red,
I think the thankful fields at night
With gathering stars is overspread,
Like seeds of many an old delight
Through sheaves of sorrow harvested.

DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

ROAST TURKEY.—In very cold weather a turkey in its feathers will hang for a fortnight with advantage. Pluck, draw, and singe very carefully; wash and then dry it thoroughly with clean cloths; fill with common bread-crumb stuffing, or with sausage-meat or chestnuts; truss firmly, and lay the bird before a clear hot fire; roast from an hour and a half to two hours, basting constantly and bountifully with butter. Serve with its own gravy and cranberry sauce. A turkey should be laid at first far from the fire, and draw nearer when half done, though never sufficiently near to scorch it. It is usual to fold and fasten a sheet of buttered writing paper over the breast to prevent its being too much browned. This should be removed 20 minutes before the bird is done.

STEWED TURKEY.—An old turkey is more tender stewed than when cooked in any other way. Put into a large pot half a pound of bacon cut in slices, a quarter of a pound of knuckle of veal, three sprigs of parsley, two of thyme, six small onions, one carrot cut in small pieces, three cloves, salt and pepper, and then the turkey; add a pint each of broth and white wine, cover as closely as possible, and simmer gently about two hours and a half; then turn the turkey over and put it back on the fire for another two hours and a half; dish the turkey; strain the sauce; put it back on the fire, and after reducing it to a glaze spread it over the turkey and serve. Some prefer stewed turkey when cold.

RAGOUT OF TURKEY.—Cut the cold turkey that is left over from a roast or boil into bits an inch long; put into a sauce-pan the gravy left from the roast, adding a little water if the quantity be small; add a tablespoonful of butter, a teaspoonful of some pungent sauce, half a teaspoonful of cloves, a little grated nutmeg, and a little salt; when it boils up, put in the meat; stew very gently for 10 minutes, and then stir in a tablespoonful of cranberry or currant jelly, a teaspoonful of browned flour wet in a little cold water, and a wineglassful of sherry or Madeira; boil up once, and serve in a covered dish. A ragout without spice, jelly, or wine is generally preferred.

BAKED CHICKEN PIE.—To make the crust, use one-half a pound of butter to every pound of flour and three teaspoonfuls of baking powder; chop one-half of the butter into the prepared flour, until it is well mixed in; add a little ice cold water, and work it into a stiff dough; roll it into a thin sheet, and spread on one-half of the remaining butter; fold it up, butter side in, and reroll it; then spread on all the butter; fold again as before, and roll out thin; cut it the size required for the pie. Line the bottom and sides of a well buttered earthen cake-pan or pudding-dish with the crust. Then, to a large tender chicken, add almost half a pound of salt pork. Have the pork chopped fine, and lay on one layer of pork; pepper it, using no salt, and cover with pieces of chicken; then another layer of pork, and so on until the chicken is used up. Have three hard-boiled eggs chopped up and added with the chicken. Before laying on the top crust, place a few small lumps of butter about the top, and add water enough to make as much gravy as may be desired. Cut a star or other ornament on the top, and bake for an hour in a slow oven.

CHICKEN SALAD.—A pair of boiled chickens, seven or eight pounds in weight, (not old fowls), cut in small dice, about a quarter of an inch square; two bunches (seven or eight heads) of celery, the white part